

REMEMBER...

The yard that's
neater, beats
the 'skeeter'.



For More Information...
**Infectious Disease Epidemiology
Program**

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West Virginia Department of
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Charleston, West Virginia 25301

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OR

Contact your local health
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LaCrosse Encephalitis

Treehole Mosquitoes and



West
Virginia
Children

LaCrosse Encephalitis

LaCrosse encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) is caused by a virus spread only by the bite of the Treehole Mosquito.

Children and adults get sick between July and October when the Treehole Mosquito is most active.

The virus most often affects children under age 16. Symptoms include

- Headache
- Fever
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Drowsiness
- Disorientation

In severe cases, seizures or coma may occur. LaCrosse is rarely fatal, but usually requires hospitalization.

Each year, 75-100 cases are reported nationwide. More cases occur in West Virginia than in any other state, approximately 50 cases per year.

The Treehole Mosquito

Ochlerotatus (Aedes) triseriatus

The Treehole Mosquito breeds only in containers that hold water. Water-holding cavities in trees are it's natural habitat, but manmade containers are important breeding sites also.



Old tires, buckets, cans, bottles, planters, tire swings, toys, pet water bowls and any other kind of container that holds water make especially good breeding sites for the Treehole Mosquito.

Prevent LaCrosse Encephalitis



Remove anything that can hold water from around your yard or where children play.

Use mosquito repellants containing DEET sparingly on children before they play outdoors.

NEVER apply DEET to the face or hands of children, and wash children with soap & warm water when they come back in the house.

Carefully read and follow the label directions when using repellants.

If your children will be in a known high mosquito area, make sure they wear socks, shoes, light-colored long pants and long sleeves.

