Mosquitoes and Ticks: They’re out in Mass!

We know this is the time of year when you’re receiving many questions about mosquitoes & ticks and the diseases they carry. MDPH has some excellent online resources we wanted to highlight in this month’s ePostcard. Tick-related information can be found here:

www.mass.gov/dph/tick

This website includes general information on ticks and common tick-borne diseases in Massachusetts, including fact sheets on a variety of tickborne diseases in multiple languages. Annual surveillance summaries for Lyme disease, babesiosis and anaplasmosis are available here. The surveillance summaries show the number of cases by county, within different age ranges and by month of onset. Notice the new Lyme/babesia and Lyme/HGA co-infection surveillance summaries as well!
Mosquito-related information can be found here:  
www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito

This website includes general information on mosquitoes and common mosquito-borne diseases in Massachusetts including West Nile virus (WNV) infection and eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). You can find the latest information about where EEE- and WNV positive mosquitoes have been found, and EEE and WNV fact sheets in several languages.

You can also find information on Chikungunya virus infections, recently identified in the Western Hemisphere and seen in residents of Massachusetts who have traveled outside the continental United States.
You can also order and download a variety of print materials (such as those below) at the Massachusetts Health Promotion Clearinghouse:

http://massclearinghouse.ehs.state.ma.us/category/MNT.html
AND we also encourage you to reserve one of our incredibly popular BITE LABs for use in your city or town. BITE LAB is a new mosquito and tick borne disease educational initiative launched in April of this year. It is an engaging and interactive exhibit targeting students in grades 3-5. Units are available to borrow across the state. **Please contact Melissa Cumming at 617-983-6817 for more information.**

If you have MAVEN questions, please email isishelp@state.ma.us or contact the MAVEN help desk at 617-983-6801. For any questions about diseases spread by ticks or mosquitoes, please contact the Epidemiology Program at 617-983-6800.