

Sherlita Amler, MD, MS, FAAP  
Commissioner of Health

Robert Morris, PE  
Director of Environmental Health



Paul Eldridge  
Putnam County Executive

Putnam County Department of Health  
1 Geneva Road, Brewster, New York 10509

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: September 16, 2011**  
**Contact: Sherlita Amler, M.D.**  
**Commissioner of Health (845) 808-1390**

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT URGES RESIDENTS TO  
REMOVE STANDING WATER TO AVOID MOSQUITO BREEDING**

Brewster, NY - The Putnam County Department of Health has received information from residents of increased mosquito activity. While we have had no confirmed reports of West Nile virus infection in Putnam County, with the recent heavy rains and flooding, homeowners should continue to re-inspect areas around homes and yards and eliminate potential mosquito breeding grounds. This includes removing all sources of standing water – tarps, buckets, cups, toys, etc.

In addition, personal protection measures should be taken for any outdoor activities. Wear shoes and socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt when outdoors. Application of a mosquito repellent containing DEET (N,N,-diethyl-m-toluamide) should also be considered to prevent mosquito bites. It is important to follow label directions and NEVER allow children to apply DEET products to themselves.

The Health Department continues to apply larvicide to targeted catch basins around the county as weather permits. **For more information on preventing mosquito breeding around homes, please call the Putnam County Health Department at (845) 808-1390 or visit the Health Department's website at: [www.putnamcountyny.com](http://www.putnamcountyny.com).**

###