



ULSTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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MICHAEL P. HEIN

County Executive

CAROL M. SMITH, MD, MPH

Commissioner of Health and Mental Health

May 2017

Dear Supervisors, Town Clerks and Highway Superintendents:

In 2016 the New York State Commissioner of Health issued emergency regulations requiring that local health departments develop Zika Action Plans with protocols for the trapping, testing and control of the mosquitoes that spread the Zika virus.

Since the Zika virus is primarily transmitted by one definite, and one suspected, species of mosquito, a key component of our prevention plan is to work with local residents and municipalities to reduce mosquito breeding habitats. In the case of Zika, the species known to carry the virus are *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. These are day biting mosquitos that breed in containers and other areas where small pools of standing water may accumulate. These areas include buckets, tires, house gutters and other objects.

We are asking our municipal partners to assist us in educating our community on how to eliminate potential mosquito breeding areas. For your reference and information, I have included links to both the CDC and NYSDOH Zika prevention pages and I urge you to share them with your staff and residents through your various media resources.

While Zika is not yet a direct threat in Ulster County, we must remain vigilant of its potential to spread to our community. By taking some basic preventive measures, we can help prevent the spread of this disease in our County. We appreciate your help in these efforts.

Sincerely,

Carol Smith, MD, MPH

Ulster County Commissioner of Health and Mental Health

More information:

NYSDOH ZIKA INFORMATION LINE: 1 (888) 364-4723 Monday - Friday (9 am to 5 pm)

Mosquito Dunks[®] (larvicide)- For one free 2-pack of larvicide for private residence use, New Yorkers can call the Zika Information Line or email the completed, attached form directly to b0019w@health.ny.gov. **Please note:** the form must be completely filled out.

CDC ZIKA Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/>

Mosquito Dunks® (larvicide) Order Form

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
1600 SUNNYVALE AVENUE
ALBANY, NY 12242-1200
518/474-8300

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

County: _____