California Department of Education

August 16, 2016

**Mitigation Strategies Checklist for District and School Leaders**

1. **Inform the school community.** 
   * The risks of mosquito bites and how to protect themselves
   * [Symptoms of Zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/pdfs/fs-zika-basics.pdf)
   * How to [apply insect repellent to children](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/pdfs/mosqprevinus.pdf)
   * How to [talk to children about Zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/pdfs/zika-ttykids.pdf)
   * [Sexual transmission of Zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/transmission/sexual-transmission.html)
2. **As appropriate, encourage the use of the following:**
   * [Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents](https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-insect-repellent-right-you) containing one of these active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or para-menthane-diol
   * Long-sleeved shirts and long pants
   * Clothing and gear treated with permethrin that will provide an added layer of protection
   * Lightweight, loose fitting clothing during the warmer months. When wearing longer sleeves and pants, take additional steps to prevent [heat-related illnesses](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/heatstress/) (for example, drink additional water and take rest breaks)
3. **Conduct routine mosquito control at home and around school properties.**
   * Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out any items that hold water where mosquitoes could lay eggs.
   * [Repair septic tanks](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/pdfs/septictankfactsheetenglishncezid.pdf) and screens on windows and doors.
   * Treat standing water that cannot be removed and will not be used for drinking or swimming with larvicides.
   * Use outdoor and indoor insecticides according to label instructions to kill mosquitoes.
   * Contact your local mosquito control district for assistance with applying insecticides and conducting larval control in water that will not be used for drinking.
4. **Support members of the school community.**
   * If requested, consider reassigning anyone who indicates she is or may become pregnant, or who is male and has a sexual partner who is or may become pregnant, to indoor tasks to reduce their risk of mosquito bites.
   * Ensure that staff and students receive prompt and appropriate medical evaluation and follow-up after a suspected exposure to Zika virus.

* + [Provide resources specifically for parents and caregivers](http://www.cdc.gov/zika/parents/index.html).
  + Provide [resources for those traveling](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-information).

This checklist is provided by the California Department of Education and is courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.