

## REMINDER...

In general, higher concentrations of active ingredients provide longer duration of protection.

Concentrations of active ingredients above 50% do not offer a marked increase in protection time.

Repellents do not protect all users equally. The effectiveness of a repellent depends on the mosquito species that is biting and chemical scents given off by the person using the repellent.

For more information about mosquitoes in your area, please ask for our *Mosquitoes of Marin and Sonoma Counties* and *Are You Raising Mosquitoes in Your Backyard?* brochures.



## OUR MISSION

The Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District, founded in 1915, protects the health and welfare of the communities it serves from mosquitoes and vector-borne diseases by utilizing cost effective, environmentally responsible integrated vector management practices.

## OUR SERVICES

Mosquito Control


Mosquitofish

Ground-Nesting  
Yellowjacket Control

Rodent Control Advice

## Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District

595 Helman Lane, Cotati, CA 94931  
Monday through Friday 7:00am to 3:30pm  
**1.800.231.3236** or **707.285.2200**  
[www.ms mosquito.com](http://www.ms mosquito.com)

 [www.twitter.com/MSMVCD](http://www.twitter.com/MSMVCD)

 [www.facebook.com/MSMVCD](http://www.facebook.com/MSMVCD)

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT REPELLENT



PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH SINCE 1915

## THE BEST REPELLENT IS THE ONE YOU WILL ACTUALLY USE.

Choose and use a repellent containing one of the following active ingredients, so you can spend time enjoying the outdoors knowing you are protected from biting insects and the diseases they may transmit.

### REPELLENT SAFETY

- Always follow label instructions when using repellents.
- Apply repellents only to exposed skin and/or clothing.
- Do not apply repellents over cuts, wounds or irritated skin.
- Do not spray repellent directly on your face; spray on your hands and then apply to face. Use repellent spray sparingly around eyes, mouth and ears.
- Children should not handle repellents. Apply repellent to your own hands first and then put it on the child. You may not want to apply to children's hands.
- Use separate repellent and sunscreen products because they need to be reapplied at different times.
- Do not spray aerosol or pump products in enclosed areas.
- After using repellents, wash treated clothing before wearing again.
- If you or your child suffers an adverse reaction following repellent use, discontinue use, wash affected areas and contact your physician or a local poison control center.



### DEET

DEET-based repellents have provided effective, dependable protection since the 1950s.

Repellents containing DEET are available in various concentrations. The concentration of DEET in a product indicates how long the product will be effective. Products containing lower concentrations of DEET may need to be reapplied, depending on the length of time a person is outdoors.

DEET-based products are available in a wide variety of forms, including lotion, wipes, aerosol, and pump sprays.

*Can be used on children 2 months & over*

### OIL OF LEMON EUCALYPTUS

Oil of lemon eucalyptus is a naturally derived active ingredient from the lemon eucalyptus plant. This is NOT the same as pure, essential oil of lemon eucalyptus, which is not recommended for use as a repellent.

Repellents containing oil of lemon eucalyptus provide protection similar to that of products containing low concentrations of DEET.

These products tend to have a strong botanical smell and are available in different forms, including pump sprays and lotions.

*Can be used on children 3 years & over*

### PICARIDIN

Picaridin is a synthetic repellent developed in the 1990s that has been commercially available in the United States since 2005.

Picaridin is an effective alternative to DEET products, and provides long-lasting protection.

Picaridin is odorless, has a pleasant feel, and doesn't damage certain fabrics and finishes affected by other repellents.

*Can be used on children 2 months & over*

### IR3535®

IR3535®, also called Merck 3535, has been used as an insect repellent in Europe for over 20 years.

IR3535® was approved for use in the United States in 1999, and is currently available in aerosol form, pump sprays, and wipes.

While the EPA recognizes the use of IR3535® as safe for adults and children, be advised that it is an eye irritant, so avoid any contact with the eyes.

*Can be used on children 6 months & over*

**ALWAYS FOLLOW LABEL INSTRUCTIONS WHEN USING REPELLENTS**