

# Protect Your Family from Mosquitoes and Ticks this Summer

JACKSON, Miss. – Now that summer temps are luring you outside, remember to protect yourself from public enemy No. 1 in Mississippi: Mosquitoes and ticks. Both carry diseases that can make you seriously ill and even cause death. The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) warns you to take precautions now so that your summer plans won't be ruined by avoidable diseases.

**Mosquitoes**

Mosquito-borne illnesses – including West Nile virus (WNV) – cause flu-like symptoms that can lead to meningitis or encephalitis. There were 33 human cases of WNV in the state in 2025, with five deaths. Here's how to protect yourself:

- Use an insect repellent that contains DEET or another EPA-registered ingredient.
- Cover arms and legs with long sleeves and long skirts or pants and wear shoes and socks.
- Avoid areas where mosquitoes are prevalent, such as shady or overgrown areas.
- Remove standing water sources and make sure window screens are in good condition.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors or indoors where mosquitoes may be present.
- If traveling overseas, learn the risks for that location and how to prevent mosquito bites during your trip. Diseases including

Chikungunya, Malaria, Yellow Fever and Zika can be transmitted by mosquitoes in other countries; talk to your doctor about prevention medicines before departing. For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/prevention/preventing-mosquito-bites-while-traveling.html>

Ticks  
Rocky Mountain Spotted

- Wear light-colored long-sleeved shirts and pants. Tuck pants into socks and boots; wear a hat.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET (30% or less) to exposed skin (except the face).
- Walk in the center of trails so weeds do not brush against you.
- Check yourself, children and other family members

every two to three hours for ticks.

- Check your pets often for ticks. Ticks can enter the home on pets and fall off in search of a host.
- Keep your grass mowed and keep weeds cut to keep the area unattractive to ticks.

Mosquitoes are most active at dawn and dusk. Mosquito and tick bites are most common in warm months, so stay safe, Mississippi.

For more information, visit <https://msdh.ms.gov/WNV> and <https://msdh.ms.gov/RMSF>

Stay up to date on news on the MSDH Healthy Mobile App, on our website [www.msdh.ms.gov](http://www.msdh.ms.gov), and on social media: [facebook.com/healthymys](https://facebook.com/healthymys), [twitter.com/msdh](https://twitter.com/msdh) and [Instagram.com/healthyms](https://instagram.com/healthyms)



- June 19** - Michael and Heather Clark
- June 21** - Zachary and Sarah Emily Schutz
- June 22** - Richard and Stephanie Barrett, Clayton and Brittany Edwards, Willie and Melissa Hooker, Brian and Tiffany Robinson
- June 23** - David and Anna Lloyd, Tommy and Carla Garrett
- June 24** - Ralph and Mary G. Hall, Josh and Brittany Allen, Andrew and Faye Roy

To add your birthdays and anniversaries to our list, please send your information by mail to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095; fax 662-834-1074; email to [hcherald@gmail.com](mailto:hcherald@gmail.com); or stop by our office at 308 Court Square in Lexington. No phone calls, please.



- June 18** - Walker Jones, Cha-Nora Teague, Suzanne Downer Westfall, Shelby Sullivan, Maudie Cooke-Wilcoxson
- June 19** - Dorothy Gordon, Maya Keith, Jerry Farmer, Laura Leigh Shelton, Belle Casey, David Watson
- June 20** - William Thomas Clark, Melissa Wallace, Lavelle Cheaham, Sara Loflin, Sophie Wentworth, Robert Swinney
- June 21** - Glen O'Reilly, Wendy Gilmore, Mary Jobe,

- Kate Rosamond
- June 22** - Linda Keith, Charles Barrett, Brandon Cothran, Marshall Smith, Kristen Joe, Keaton Bates, Tish Stewart, Kristen Yawn, Isabella Lloyd, Violet Lloyd, Patricia W. Weatherly
- June 23** - Sarah Horton, Matthew Lawson, Melanie Davis, Jolynn White, Carlton Aldridge, Amber McBride
- June 24** - James Gusta Watson, Jr., Katie Diggs, Coleman Smith, Josh Macko, Brittany Blackstock



## Mississippi Lottery FY26 Transfer to State Nears \$120 Million

**Latest Wheel of Fortune Bonus Promotion Winners Announced**

JACKSON, MISS. — The Mississippi Lottery Corporation transferred \$9.618 million to the state for the month of May, bringing total proceeds transferred during Fiscal Year 2026 to \$117,939,533.03 and moving the Lottery within reach of the \$120 million milestone.

Since ticket sales began in November 2019, the Mississippi Lottery has generated more than \$809.7 million for the state, with proceeds supporting Mississippi's infrastructure and public education.

Under state law, the first \$80 million in annual lottery proceeds is deposited into the State Highway Fund. Any proceeds exceeding that threshold are transferred to the Education Enhancement Fund. As of May, more than \$37.9 million from FY26 lottery proceeds has been directed to education programs across Mississippi.

across Mississippi — and even one in Alabama — taking home cash prizes in the

second drawing of the promotion. The winning prizes included \$15,000 to a player from Ridgeland, \$10,000 to a player from Columbus, \$7,500 to a player from Newton, \$5,000 to a player from Baldwin and \$2,500 each to players from Edwards, West Point and Hamilton, Ala.

Players still have four more chance to win, with the next Wheel of Fortune Bonus Promotion drawing set for June 19. Players can enter eligible non-winning \$2, \$5 and \$10 Wheel of Fortune scratch-off tickets into the Mississippi Lottery 2nd Chance portal through the Mississippi Lottery official app or online at [ms-lottery.com](http://ms-lottery.com) for a chance to win cash prizes in the final drawing.



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Maria Edwards.....Publisher  
Julie Ellison...Gen. Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

- In Holmes County - \$40.00**
- In Mississippi - \$45.00**
- Outside Mississippi - \$55.00**
- Senior Citizen Discount**

**\$1.00 of f above pri**



**JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION**

The 4th annual Juneteenth Celebration will be held on Saturday, June 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Goodman Community Center. For more information, call Mary Day at 662-235-8050 or 262-930-8491.

6-18

**MT. MORIAH MB CHURCH**

Mt. Moriah MB Church, Pickens, will host its Summer Revival on July 6 thru 8 at 7:00 p.m.

6-18,25;7-2

**ROSE HILL DISTRICT BAPTIST**

**ASSOCIATION**

The Rose Hill District Baptist Association will hold its Seventy-Fifth Annual Session at Union Grove M.B. Church, 150 Rhynne Street, Lexington beginning on Sunday, June 28 at 6:00 p.m. For more information, call Rev. Dan March at 662-834-4888, Leroy Gibson at 662-834-4373, or Mrs. Leona Fields at 662-834-1489.

6-18,25

**SWEET HOME MB CHURCH**

Sweet Home MB Church, 11808 Ebenezer Road, will hold its annual Men's Day service on Sunday, June 21 at 11:00 a.m.

6-4,11,18

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