



Office of  
Board of Health

# *Town of Marshfield*

Board of Health

870 Moraine Street

Marshfield, Massachusetts, 02050

Tel: 781-834-5558

Fax: 781-837-6047

## PRESS RELEASE

September 26, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION:

On September 13, 2012, the Town of Marshfield Board of Health issued an order prohibiting all group activities on public property and recommended restriction of group outdoor activity even on private property during peak mosquito activity hours in areas of intensive virus activity as a result of a confirmed case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Marshfield. As the public is aware, mosquitoes are more active during dusk and darkness (peak mosquito activity hours), and this disease can be serious or fatal. **Effective immediately, the Board of Health is advancing that time on a daily basis from 6:00PM to 5:30PM.**

On September 24, 2012, a second case of EEE infection was confirmed in a child under the age of 18 prompting the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to elevate the risk level to "critical" in the Town of Marshfield. As a result of this second confirmed case of EEE, the Board of Health, acting pursuant to Gen. L. c. 111 §§104 and 122, has requested voluntary compliance by private establishments and property owners whose property is open to the public with a ban on all outside activities of any nature or type from 5:30PM to dawn. This restriction is intended to address this critical threat to public health and prevent the spread of this disease. This voluntary ban will remain in full force and effect through the date of the first hard frost in the Town of Marshfield.

The Board of Health is most appreciative of the support of the owners and operators of private establishments in Marshfield during this period of critical EEE risk.

Any persons who must be outside during these peak mosquito activity hours are reminded to take the necessary precautions to guard against this EEE threat.

Gerald J. Maher, Chairman

Mark W. MacDonald, Vice Chairman

Sean Collins, Clerk

Peter J. Falabella, Director of Public Health