

Protect Yourself From the Zika Virus

A recent outbreak of the Zika virus has been classified as a global public health emergency.

Throwing a Safe Party at Your Home

Following these simple precautions can help ensure the safety of any guests in your home.

Vehicle Recalls Reach a Record High

The NHTSA estimates that millions of recalled vehicles never undergo repairs.

LIFE

Protect Yourself From the Zika Virus

The outbreak of the mosquito-borne Zika virus has recently been classified as a global public health emergency by the World Health Organization (WHO). Although the symptoms of the virus are generally mild, the virus may cause serious congenital disorders. Thankfully, there are some simple steps you can take to protect yourself and your family:

- Women who are pregnant or who are trying to become pregnant should postpone traveling to [any area where Zika virus transmission is ongoing](#).
- Individuals traveling to areas where Zika virus transmission is ongoing should take [steps to prevent mosquito bites](#), such as using insect repellents and wearing pants and long-sleeved shirts.
- Consult a health care professional if you experience any symptoms of the Zika virus, such as a rash, fever, joint pain or conjunctivitis.

Experts have theorized that the Zika virus can be passed from a pregnant woman to her child, and it can cause the development of microcephaly. This serious abnormality frequently leads to a lower than average life expectancy and severely impaired intellectual development.

For more information on the Zika outbreak, contact ISU|MVP Insurance Agency today.

PROVIDED BY



ISU|MVP Insurance Agency

559-324-7333

www.insurancemvp.com

Throwing a Safe Party at Your Home

Hosting a party at your home can be a fun way to connect with your friends and family. However, it's important to ensure that your guests will be safe and secure while you're hosting them. Here are some considerations for protecting guests and your home during a party:

- Slips and falls are the most common dangers in residential properties. To protect your guests, clear your driveway and sidewalks of snow and ice, and make sure that rugs or cords don't create tripping hazards.
- If you serve alcohol during a party, you can be held liable for a guest who becomes intoxicated and then drives home. Make sure that none of your guests overindulge, and always have a backup plan so no one drinks and drives.
- Unattended children at a party can get injured or cause damage to your property, so it's a good idea to provide them with a supervisor.
- Excessive noise could become a nuisance to your guests and neighbors. Don't be afraid of turning down the volume of any music or other entertainment at your party, or of asking guests to quiet down.
- If you have pets, they could become agitated or even aggressive toward your guests due to the noise from the party. Consider putting your pets in a closed bedroom to keep them calm and your guests safe.
- Valuable and fragile items aren't always covered under a typical homeowners policy. Take a moment to think about where your guests will gather during the party, and move any valuable or fragile items from that area.

Vehicle Recalls Reach a Record High

Fifty million vehicles operating in the United States have been recalled due to safety issues, but the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that 25 percent of recalled vehicles are never repaired. That's why it's important to be proactive about vehicle recalls.

There are two ways to determine if your vehicle has been recalled:

- Go to [the NHTSA's website](#), and search for your vehicle identification number (VIN). Your VIN can be found in the corner of your vehicle's windshield where it meets the dashboard or on the driver's-side door post.
- Call your vehicle's manufacturer and ask about your vehicle.

If you discover that your vehicle has been recalled, you can take it to one of the manufacturer's dealerships for a free repair. Remember to be proactive about recalls—a vehicle that has been recalled has the potential to endanger its driver, passengers and surrounding traffic.



IN THE KNOW

Airbag Recall

Over 20 vehicle manufacturers have recently issued recalls for the millions of vehicles that contain defective airbags.

Numerous safety studies have shown that airbags manufactured by Takata, a Japanese auto part supplier, may deploy improperly in the event of a crash and shoot out metal fragments.

Although Takata first announced the defect in 2013, the company has been unable to determine which vehicle makes or models contain the defective airbags. As a result, the NHTSA and automakers that use Takata airbags have issued numerous recalls and safety notices.

For more information on the recall, or to see if your vehicle is affected, visit the government's safe driving resource at <http://www.safercar.gov/rs/takata/takatalist.html>.