



LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Mosquitos & Disease By: Jeremy Olivier, Lofton Safety Services

As the temperatures hit their peak and we work or play outside more, safety from biting and stinging insects is a topic that deserves discussion. Besides the annoyance of insect bites and stings, it's important to remember that many diseases can be transmitted by them. One bite from an infected mosquito could cause a range of viruses, including Zika, Dengue Fever, and the West Nile virus. Of course, ticks are carriers of Lyme Disease.

Whether working or enjoying leisure time, you can protect yourself by:

- Checking Your Destination and activities to determine what steps you need to take to protect yourself from bug bites. Check CDC Destinations pages to see what vaccines or medicines you may need and what diseases or health risks are a concern at your destination.
- Using clothing that covers hands, arms, legs, and other exposed areas.
- Checking sources of standing water (and getting rid of them) as mosquitos can lay eggs there.
- Using Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents with one of the active ingredients below. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective. If also using sunscreen, always apply insect repellent after sunscreen.
 - DEET



- Picaridin
 - IR3535
 - Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE)
 - Para-menthane-diol (PMD)
 - 2-undecanone
- Avoiding the use of perfumes and scented soaps. The sweet scents attract some insects.
 - Washing any skin that has insect repellent on it when going back indoors.
 - Investigating any outdoor areas which you plan to occupy. It is better to discover and address any stinging or biting insects in the area before it is occupied.
 - Exercising caution when using insecticide sprays. Ensure there is adequate ventilation in the area of use and remain upwind of the area being sprayed to avoid being doused.
 - Carrying an adrenaline injector such as EpiPen® or Anapen® if you are at risk of a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). Always have a means of calling for medical assistance such as a mobile telephone.
 - Remembering your pets, too. Your four-legged family members can be carriers for these biting insects, introducing them into areas they may not normally be. Pets can also get diseases from insects. Make sure to bring and use your pet's flea and tick repellants.

You've Been Caught

Shout out to Officers **Kyla Steib, Cynthia Adams, and Evelina Pablo**, New Orleans for noticing a procedure problem with an incoming vendor. They noticed a repeat visitor was coming onto property repeatedly, but had not been properly vetted. They brought this to the attention of site management who agreed these individuals would need to go through proper badging for site access. This may seem like a small issue, but you never know the true nature of a person making repeated visits to a site.

GREAT catch Kyla, Cynthia, and Evelina! This is why Lofton is THE difference in security!

Congratulations Officer **Monica Underwood, Gonzales**, who traveled to Duluth, GA to pick up her Career Diploma in Forensic Science. Not only is this an outstanding achievement, but Monica achieved this diploma while working full-time for Lofton. Now THAT is dedication!

Congratulations **Monica**, we are VERY proud of you!



September 2024

September 2
Labor Day



September 8
Grandparents' Day

September 11
Patriot Day



September 22
First Day of Autumn





A Working Imagination

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D.

When Tommy Lofton was a young boy, and I'm sure most of you as well, he discovered the magic of imagination. Of course times were different for Tommy as a young boy. There were no televisions at that time, so Tommy would read his comic books or attend the Saturday matinee at the local movie theater for entertainment. In between those times, Tommy had his imagination to fill the time with stories or play. In all his stories he created, he was the hero (of course).

As Tommy grew older, he still maintained his imagination, but they became more anchored with the things he wanted to accomplish in his life. His imagination sparked questions like, "Why can't I do that? Can I do that? Would that be fun?" Dreams can be more powerful than goals, because you have already imagined the outcome before it occurred. Lofton Staffing Services was the outcome of one of those dreams.

Creativity and problem solving is essential in the workplace. Tommy has instilled this imagination at work concept throughout Lofton Staffing. Problems are possibilities – the ability to solve problems through imagination. Basically – thinking outside the box. Employees feel more engaged and satisfied when they are empowered to think for themselves and use their creativity. It helps to feel connected and

valued rather than robots carrying out assigned tasks. Imaginative individuals are more likely to express themselves, solve problems, and find meaning in their work and life.

Sometimes as adults, we lose this ability to imagine the unimaginable. Below are a few tips for expanding your imagination at work.



Creativity is at the heart of problem-solving.

- Focus on small goals (rocks) instead of the big picture. It's easier to solve small problems which will lead to big solutions.
- Envision the end result. Are you picturing success – then it is attainable!

- Brainstorm. Sounds simple but it's hard when you are in a disciplined state. Get up, go outside, play a game, listen to music, etc. Get your mind in a playful state where imagination is possible.
- Look at problems from a different perspective. Tommy has said this over and over again at Lofton. Are we having trouble filling a position? Look at it from the candidate's perspective. Are we communicating the information the candidate would be looking for? Are we answering questions the candidate would ask?

Tommy explains it this way, "At Lofton Staffing we're committed to having fun...and being better. We view problems as possibilities, and practice 'fast break' management in which anyone can emerge as leader and problem solver. In the cold gray dawn (and in tough economic times), some of your ideas may not seem too good, but you only need a few of them...It's fun just engaging in the ecstasy of the imagination."

Creativity is at the heart of problem-solving. Set aside a few minutes a day to just let your imagination run wild. There's no greater freedom than the freedom of daydreaming. The more ideas you can generate and the more flexible you are in your approach, the more likely you are to come up with an idea that is original, (or builds on an old idea), and one that will solve problems in the world, in your personal life, or in the workplace.

Questions to Ask After an Interview By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing & Recruiting

At some point during your interview, you may be asked, "Do you have any questions?" This is your opportunity to ask critical questions that may make a difference as to whether you want to work for this company or not and may help the recruiter remember you over other applicants. Here are basic questions to consider asking:

How would you describe the culture or spirit of this company? One of the interviewer's concerns is whether you will fit into the company culture. You need more information to see if this would be a good environment and fit for you.

What are the challenges I would face in this position over the next three months? Your first 90 days on the job is a critical time for any new hire. You need to know what will be expected of you as you start your learning curve.

What future plans does the company have that you are most excited about? This will give you insight into future growth (if any)



of the company AND how the recruiter responds. If they are truly excited or don't provide an answer at all.

How does the company measure success? This will help you understand how the company evaluates employee's performance, whether it's through quotas or other methods.

I am very interested in pursuing this job. What is the next step in the hiring process? It is best to find out what the hiring plan is so that you will know the sense of urgency and how to follow up.

The types of questions you ask will be determined by the conversation and types of questions asked of you during the interview. Pay attention to the interviewer's body language to determine how many questions to ask.

Lastly, make sure your questions are succinct and to the point, demonstrating your knowledge and interest in the job.