

West Nile Virus Found in Borough of Butler Mosquito Pool August 23, 2018

During routine testing, the Morris County Division of Mosquito Control found one mosquito pool positive for West Nile Virus in the Borough of Butler. The positive mosquito pool was detected in the woods behind the library on Ace Road.

The Division of Mosquito Control will be treating this non-residential area with a resmethrin-based insecticide that is recognized as an effective solution for mosquito control. The insecticide will be applied during the morning hours, and the insecticide residual is known to dissipate within one hour.

Though 284 mosquito pools have tested positive for West Nile Virus throughout New Jersey in 2018, there has only been one human case of the disease this year. Residents are reminded to take precautions to reduce the risk of mosquito bites. Window and door screens should be repaired as necessary, and outdoor activities should be minimized at dawn, dusk and evening hours. Residents should wear long shirts and pants when outdoors and insect repellent may be sprayed on clothing and exposed skin in accordance with labeling instructions. Standing water should be eliminated in flowerpots, buckets, tires, pools, playground equipment, etc., and birdbaths should be emptied and refilled weekly.

Borough of Butler residents may call the Health Department at 973-838-7200 ext. 237 with any questions regarding West Nile Virus. Residents should report mosquito problems and standing water to the Morris County Division of Mosquito Control at 973-285-6450. For information about the Division of Mosquito Control and its efforts to prevent mosquito activity in our community, please check its website, which also includes frequent updates regarding where and when mosquito spraying will take place:

www.morriscountynj.gov/mosquito/

For more information regarding West Nile Virus and mosquito control, please check the following websites:

www.cdc.gov/westnile/faq/genQuestions.html

www.morriscountynj.gov/mosquito/diseases/

WEST NILE VIRUS IN NEW JERSEY



Know the Facts • Protect Yourself



IMPORTANT FACTS

WHAT IS WEST NILE VIRUS (WNV)?

West Nile virus is one of a family of viruses that can be transmitted by the bite of an infected mosquito.

HOW DOES WNV SPREAD?

Mosquitoes can become infected with WNV by feeding on birds that have the virus in their bloodstream. Once a mosquito is infected with the virus it can transmit the virus to humans, birds, horses or other mammals through a bite.

CAN I GET WNV DIRECTLY FROM CROWS OR OTHER PEOPLE?

There is no evidence to date suggesting that humans can get WNV by touching a dead bird. However, it is strongly suggested for general sanitary reasons that you use protective gloves when handling any sick or injured bird. WNV is NOT transmitted from person to person.



WHY IS THE STATE TESTING BIRDS (ESPECIALLY CROWS) FOR WNV?

Crows appear to be highly sensitive to the virus and provide a barometer for us to detect WNV activity in your community. Knowledge of positive birds in your area allows mosquito control agencies to perform more targeted surveillance and control activities.

IF AN INFECTED MOSQUITO BITES ME HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE TO DEVELOP SYMPTOMS?



Most people bitten by infected mosquitoes do not develop any symptoms. However, when symptoms of infection do occur, they usually appear 5-15 days from the time you were bitten.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF WNV INFECTION?

Most people who are infected show no or only mild symptoms such as: low-grade fever, headache, and occasionally swollen lymph glands. More severe signs and symptoms can include: high fever, stiff neck, muscle weakness, disorientation, brain inflammation (encephalitis), coma and, rarely, death.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK I HAVE BEEN INFECTED WITH WEST NILE VIRUS?

Contact your family physician.

HOW IS WNV TREATED?

There is no specific treatment for WNV. In more severe cases, patients are treated with supportive therapy, which can include hospitalization, intravenous (IV) fluids and respiratory support.



IF I LIVE IN AN AREA WITH POSITIVE BIRDS AND MOSQUITOES WILL I GET WNV?

It is highly unlikely. Even in areas where mosquitoes do carry the virus very few mosquitoes are infected (less than 1%). If the mosquito is infected, less than 1% of people who get bitten and become infected will get severely ill. The chances that you will become severely ill from any one mosquito bite are extremely small.

CONTROL & PREVENTION

WHAT CAN I DO TO REDUCE MY RISK OF GETTING WNV?

1. Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts when outdoors, particularly at dawn & dusk.
2. Make sure screens on windows and doors are in good condition.
3. Use mosquito repellent when outdoors. Be sure to use according to the label—less than 10% DEET for children.
4. Eliminate standing water, old tires, cans and blocked gutters from your property.
5. Maintain your swimming pools. Empty or cover swimming pools when not in use.
6. Keep birdbaths clean. Change the water at least once a week.
7. Report mosquito concerns to your local mosquito control agency.

Contact your county mosquito control agency for more information about mosquitoes and how you can best control them.

IF I FIND A DEAD BIRD ON MY PROPERTY WHAT SHOULD I DO?

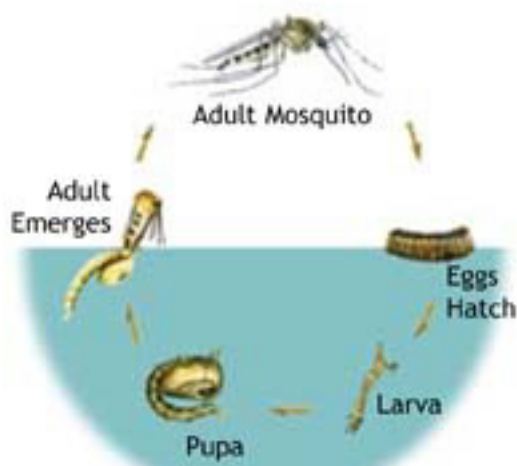
Contact your local health department for details.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I NOTICE A LOT OF MOSQUITOES ON MY PROPERTY?

Contact your county mosquito control agency to schedule an inspection of your property.

Mosquitoes need water to breed and grow. Almost anything that holds water for one week or longer can produce these pests. To eliminate mosquito problems, eliminate any standing water on your property.

The Mosquito Life Cycle



For Additional Information Contact:

www.state.nj.us/health

www.state.nj.us/dep/mosquito

www.state.nj.us/agriculture

www-rci.rutgers.edu/~insects/njmos.htm

www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbib/westnile

www.epa.gov/pesticides



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Infectious & Zoonotic Disease Program

Avoid Mosquito Bites

- ✔ Use insect repellent when outdoors.
 - DEET is the “gold-standard” for mosquito repellents. Choose the proper percent of DEET for the amount of time you will be spending outdoors. The higher the concentration, the longer the protection. **Follow all directions carefully.**
 - Do not apply to eyes, mouth, or broken skin (cuts, scrapes, etc.).
 - Do not apply to skin that is covered with clothing.
 - Avoid using products that combine sunscreen with insect repellent. Apply separate products.
 - Do not use products that contain permethrin on skin. Spray onto clothing only. Permethrin can also be sprayed on gear such as hats, tents and sleeping bags.

Note: DEET and other repellents can be used on children older than two months of age. Apply repellent to your hands and then rub onto children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children younger than three years of age.

- ✔ Wear light-colored clothes with long sleeves and long pants. Mosquitoes are more attracted to dark-colored clothes.
- ✔ Limit time outdoors when mosquitoes are most active (during dusk and dawn).
- ✔ Use mosquito netting on infant carriers and strollers while outdoors.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

- ✔ Drain standing water.
 - Clean out gutters and drains.
 - Dispose of old tires. Drill holes in tire swings.
 - Drain standing water from pool covers. Make sure pool covers are pulled tight. Keep pools chlorinated. Flip over plastic children’s pools when not in use.
 - Drain or change water every four days in containers such as pet dishes, flower pots, wheelbarrows, birdbaths, decorative pools and rain barrels. Decorative pools and rain barrels can be stocked with a special type of fish that feed on mosquito larvae.
 - Cover garbage and recycling containers. Remove any loose garbage from your yard such as bottle caps, pie plates, food containers, etc.
 - Check swing sets, lawn furniture and decorations, toys, etc. for standing water.
- ✔ Install or repair window screens.
- ✔ Call your county mosquito control agency at 1-888-NO NJ WNV for more information on mosquito control activities in your neighborhood, or to report mosquito problems in your yard.