

PRESS RELEASE

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One Hundred and Seven Additional West Nile Virus Mosquito Samples Collected in York County for 2018 Season

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Vector Management has reported one hundred and eight additional York County mosquito samples testing positive for West Nile Virus during 2018. To date, 553 mosquito samples collected in York County have tested positive for West Nile Virus. There has also been one confirmed human case of West Nile Virus in York County.

Penn State Extension York County West Nile Virus Program and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Vector Management collected the following positive samples August 30, 2018 through September 7, 2018 from the following municipalities:

- Conewago Township (1 positive from 1 trap collection)
- East Manchester Township (1 positives from 1 trap collection)
- East Prospect Borough (2 positives from 1 trap collection)
- Fairview Township (2 positives from 1 trap collection)
- Hanover Borough (2 positives from 2 trap collections)
- Hallam Borough (2 positives from 1 trap collection)
- Hellam Township (3 positives from 2 trap collections)
- Lewisberry Borough (6 positives from 1 trap collection)
- Lower Windsor Township (6 positives from 2 trap collections)
- Manchester Township (22 positives from 10 trap collections)
- New Salem Borough (2 positives from 1 trap collection)
- Penn Township (6 positives from 2 trap collections)

Shrewsbury Borough (2 positives from 1 trap collection)

Spring Garden Township (7 positives from 3 trap collections)

Springettsbury Township (27 positives from 11 trap collections)

West Manheim Township (2 positives from 1 trap collection)

West Manchester Township (2 positives from 2 trap collection)

Windsor Township (6 positives from 4 trap collections)

York City (6 positives from 6 trap collections)

Additional mosquito surveillance, sampling and larval control is being performed as necessary by Penn State Extension and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Vector Management.

We recommend residents continue to take time to inspect their yards and take a few minutes to clean up, reduce yard clutter and dump out any sources of stagnant water. Residents may also purchase a variety of mosquito control and repellent products from most home and garden centers. Performing a community-wide cleanup will help reduce most mosquito concerns. Residents are urged to contact your local municipality to help promote cleaning up to reduce mosquito concerns and disease risk. Stormwater management systems can sometimes contribute to mosquito issues and are also routinely monitored by Penn State Extension.

Mosquito surveillance in York County indicates that the most common mosquito species in residential areas come from artificial containers left behind by humans. Artificial containers can be something small like a bottle cap to sometimes as large as a swimming pool. Additional containers such as tires, buckets and tarps are preferred by mosquitoes because other predators found in nature which would prey on mosquito larvae are not present. During periods of drought, these containers continue to hold water and produce mosquitoes. One bucket or tire in someone's backyard can produce hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes in a year.

May through October, mosquitoes can complete their life cycle within five to seven days. Residents should also use repellents when spending time outside. For individuals who don't like to use repellents we recommend taking an electric fan outside with you. Mosquitoes don't like the wind and the fan will help keep them away. As a last resort, residents can purchase insecticides from garden centers and hardware stores to spray in their own yard but need to be sure to follow the label instructions.

York County residents can contact the York County West Nile Virus Program by calling 717-840-2375 or email TLS35@psu.edu. Keep in mind that the York County West Nile

Virus Program attempts to educate residents about the importance of cleaning up. Individuals may need to report neighbor complaints to their local municipality to rectify the concern.

For information about West Nile Virus symptoms in humans, contact the Pennsylvania Department of Health at 1-877-PA-Health.