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For Immediate Release

Contact: Erin Smiley, Public Information Officer, 513.863.1770

Mosquitoes Tests Positive for West Nile Virus in Butler County

HAMILTON - Mosquitoes collected in Butler County tested positive for West Nile virus on Friday, July 26. Public health officials are being proactive and urging people to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and the diseases they may carry.

Jennifer Bailer Health Commissioner for Butler County wants the public to know, "while the public does not need to panic, now is a good time to focus on prevention. Help the county eliminate sources of standing water on your property to prevent mosquito eggs from hatching and developing into biting adults that spread the disease."

West Nile virus is a disease that affects the central nervous system. It can be passed from mosquitoes to humans. Symptoms of West Nile virus include fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, rash and body aches. Contact your healthcare provider or go to an urgent care facility if you are experiencing any of these symptoms.

Butler County General Health District (BCGHD) monitors mosquitoes in the county, and for the first time this season collected insects tested positive for West Nile virus. Carrie Yeager Environmental Health Director for BCGHD said, "We will continue to conduct surveillance activities to monitor mosquitoes in the county."

Surrounding counties also have identified positive mosquito pools including Hamilton County. Last year the Ohio Department of Health reported 65 cases of West Nile virus in humans, including 6 deaths.

"Taking simple precautions like using bug spray and wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors can prevent potentially serious diseases caused by the bite of infected mosquito," said Lori Landis Nursing Director for BCGHD.

To minimize mosquito populations and prevent bites, health officials suggest the following:

- Drain standing water
- Change the water in the birdbaths and wading pools daily
- Y gct'hqpi 'urgxg'uj kw'cpf 'r cpvu
- O ckpckp'y kpf qy 'uetggpu
- Wug'GRC/tgi kvgtgf 'kpugevtgr gmgpu

- Y guv'P kg'xktw'j cu'dggp'f gvev'f 'lp'c'xctkgv' 'qh'dktf 'ur geku.'gur gekm' 'etqy u'cpf 'lc{ u0Tgr qtv'

abnormal dead bird sightings to the BCGHD by calling

513-863-1770.

- The BCGHD provides free "dunks" to residents. For more information call 513-863-1770. Dunks kill mosquito larvae, but is harmless to birds, fish, wildlife, and pets.

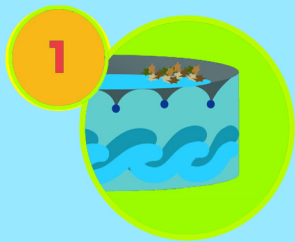
To learn more about West Nile virus and mosquito prevention visit BCGHD's website at health.bcoho.us and ohio.gov/mosquitos for the Ohio Department of Health website.

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301 S. Third St.
Hamilton, OH 45011



Find These Things That Cause Mosquito Breeding Around The Home



Pool cover that collects water, neglected swimming pool or child's wading pool



Birdbath and garden pond



Any toy, garden equipment, or container that can hold water



Flat roof with standing water



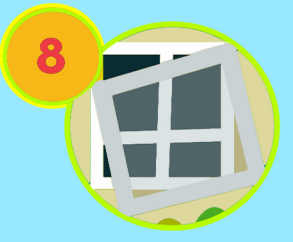
Clogged rain gutter



Trash and old tires



Tree hole, hollow stump, or rain puddle



Missing, damaged or improperly installed screens



Uncovered boat or boat cover that collects water



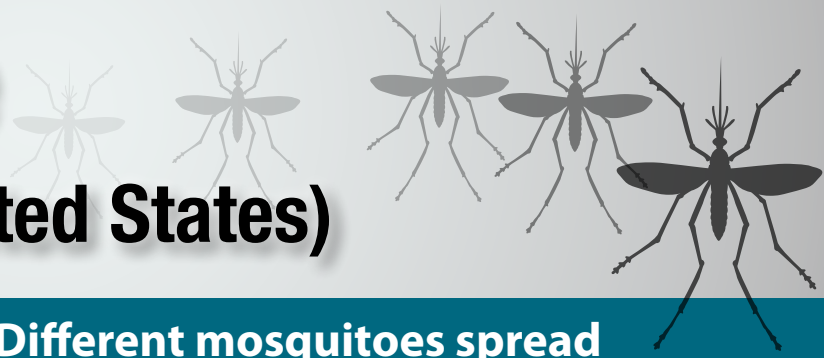
Leaky faucet and pet bowl





FIGHT The Bite 
Ohio.Gov/Mosquito

ILLUSTRATIONS ADAPTED FOR USE WITH PERMISSION FROM THE S.C. DHEC REV. 5/30/18

Mosquito Bite Prevention (United States)





Not all mosquitoes are the same. Different mosquitoes spread different viruses and bite at different times of the day.

Type of Mosquito	Viruses spread	Biting habits
 <i>Aedes aegypti</i> , <i>Aedes albopictus</i>	Chikungunya, Dengue, Zika	Primarily daytime, but can also bite at night
 <i>Culex</i> species	West Nile	Evening to morning

Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites

Use insect repellent

Use an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breastfeeding women.

Active ingredient		 Find the insect repellent that's right for you by using <u>EPA's search tool</u> .*
DEET		
Picaridin (known as KBR 3023 and icaridin outside the US)		
IR3535		
Oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD)		
2-undecanone		

* The EPA's search tool is available at: www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-insect-repellent-right-you



Protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites *(continued)*



- ◆ Always follow the product label instructions.
- ◆ Reapply insect repellent every few hours, depending on which product and strength you choose.
 - » Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.
 - » If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.

Natural insect repellents (repellents not registered with EPA)

- ◆ The effectiveness of non-EPA registered insect repellents, including some natural repellents, is not known.
- ◆ To protect yourself against diseases like chikungunya, dengue, and Zika, CDC and EPA recommend using an EPA-registered insect repellent.
- ◆ When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective. For more information: www2.epa.gov/insect-repellents

If you have a baby or child



- ◆ Always follow instructions when applying insect repellent to children.
- ◆ Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months of age.
- ◆ Dress your child in clothing that covers arms and legs, or
 - ◆ Cover crib, stroller, and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
 - ◆ Do not apply insect repellent onto a child's hands, eyes, mouth, and cut or irritated skin.
 - » Adults: Spray insect repellent onto your hands and then apply to a child's face.
 - ◆ Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD) on children under 3 years of age.

Treat clothing and gear



- ◆ Treat items such as boots, pants, socks, and tents with permethrin or purchase permethrin-treated clothing and gear.
 - » Permethrin-treated clothing will protect you after multiple washings. See product information to find out how long the protection will last.
 - » If treating items yourself, follow the product instructions.
 - » Do not use permethrin products directly on skin.

Mosquito-proof your home



- ◆ Use screens on windows and doors. Repair holes in screens to keep mosquitoes outside.
- ◆ Use air conditioning when available.
- ◆ Keep mosquitoes from laying eggs in and near standing water.
 - » Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers. Check inside and outside your home.

West Nile Virus (WNV) Fact Sheet

What Is West Nile Virus?

West Nile virus infection can cause serious disease. WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall. This fact sheet contains important information that can help you recognize and prevent West Nile virus.

What Can I Do to Prevent WNV?

The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites.

- When outdoors, use repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, some oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol. Follow the directions on the package.
- Many mosquitoes are most active from dusk to dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours.
- Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren't being used.

What Are the Symptoms of WNV?

- **Serious Symptoms in a Few People.** About 1 in 150 people infected with WNV will develop severe illness. The severe symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent.
- **Milder Symptoms in Some People.** Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected will have symptoms which can include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last for as short as a few days to as long as several weeks.
- **No Symptoms in Most People.** Approximately 80 percent of people who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all, but there is no way to know in advance if you will develop an illness or not.

How Does West Nile Virus Spread?

- **Infected Mosquitoes.**
WNV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes can then spread WNV to humans and other animals when they bite.
- **Transfusions, Transplants, and Mother-to-Child.**
In a very small number of cases, WNV also has been spread directly from an infected person through blood transfusions, organ transplants, breastfeeding and during pregnancy from mother to baby.
- **Not through touching.**
WNV is not spread through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person with the virus.

How Soon Do Infected People Get Sick?

People typically develop symptoms between 3 and 14 days after they are bitten by the infected mosquito.

How Is WNV Infection Treated?

There is no specific treatment for WNV infection. In cases with milder symptoms, people experience symptoms such as fever and aches that pass on their own, although illness may last weeks to months. In more severe cases, people usually need to go to the hospital where they can receive supportive treatment including intravenous fluids, help with breathing, and nursing care.

What Should I Do if I Think I Have WNV?

Milder WNV illness improves on its own, and people do not need to seek medical attention for this infection though they may choose to do so. If you develop symptoms of severe WNV illness, such as unusually severe headaches or confusion, seek medical attention immediately. Severe WNV illness usually requires hospitalization. Pregnant women and nursing mothers are encouraged to talk to their doctor if they develop symptoms that could be WNV.



What Is the Risk of Getting Sick from WNV?

- **People over 50 at higher risk to get severe illness.** People over the age of 50 are more likely to develop serious symptoms of WNV if they do get sick and should take special care to avoid mosquito bites.
- **Being outside means you're at risk.** The more time you're outdoors, the more time you could be bitten by an infected mosquito. Pay attention to avoiding mosquito bites if you spend time outside, either working or playing.
- **Risk through medical procedures is very low.** All donated blood is checked for WNV before being used. The risk of getting WNV through blood transfusions and organ transplants is very small, and should not prevent people who need surgery from having it. If you have concerns, talk to your doctor.

What Is CDC Doing About WNV?

CDC is working with state and local health departments, the Food and Drug Administration and other government agencies, as well as private industry, to prepare for and prevent new cases of WNV.

Some things CDC is doing include:

- Coordinating a nation-wide electronic database where states share information about WNV
- Helping states develop and carry out improved mosquito prevention and control programs
- Developing better, faster tests to detect and diagnose WNV
- Creating new education tools and programs for the media, the public, and health professionals
- Working with partners to develop vaccines.



What Else Should I Know?

West Nile virus infects birds. In nature, West Nile virus cycles between mosquitoes and birds. Some infected birds can develop high levels of the virus in their bloodstream and mosquitoes can become infected by biting these infected birds. Some, but not all infected birds get sick and die of disease. One way health officials conduct surveillance for West Nile virus is by testing local birds. Finding dead birds may be a sign that West Nile virus is circulating between birds and the mosquitoes in an area. By reporting dead birds to state and local health departments, you can play an important role in monitoring West Nile virus. State and local agencies have different policies for collecting and testing birds, so check with your county or [state health department](#) to find information about reporting dead birds in your area.

If you find a dead bird: Don't handle the body with your bare hands. Contact your local health department for instructions on reporting and disposing of the body. They may tell you to dispose of the bird after they log your report.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/westnile, or call CDC at 800-CDC-INFO (English and Spanish) or 888-232-6348 (TTY).