



Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

Gary Eichelberger, Chairman . Jean Foschi, Vice Chairman . Vincent T. DiFilippo, Secretary

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Samantha Krepps, *Communications Director*
O: 717.240.6343 | M: 717.706.0001
skrepps@ccpa.net

Second Positive West Nile Virus Mosquito Sample Found in Cumberland County

Carlisle, PA – Cumberland County’s Vector Control Office was today notified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) of the second positive mosquito sample for West Nile Virus (WNV), in Middlesex Township. Cumberland County Vector Control is setting up another collection trap at the positive site location, and re-surveying the site location for standing water habitats to either treat or remove. The first positive sample was collected Dickinson Township earlier this month.

Help prevent the diseases spread by mosquitos by:

- Using mosquito repellants, wearing longs sleeved shirts and pants.
- Taking extra precautions around dusk, the peak of female mosquito feeding.
- Securing window and doors screens, so mosquitos can’t make it into your home.
- Eliminating stagnate water around your property.
- Treating water sources that cannot be drained, mosquito dunks or bits that contain *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti), which kills larvae. These products are safe for use around humans, and pets and can be found at hardware stores and other local retailers.

Mosquitoes transmit WNV by feeding on infected birds and transmit the disease when biting another bird, animal, or human.

The county’s WNV program applies an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan to control mosquitoes, while limiting the effects to people and the environment. Vector Control will continue to collect and monitor the mosquito population and to actively treat water habitat to limit future generations of mosquitoes.

The virus is not spread by person-to-person contact. One in five people infected with WNV develop a mild infection called West Nile Fever; aches, fever, skin rash and swollen lymph nodes are symptoms of this infection. With rest and fluids, most people recover in a few days.

Less than one percent of infections develop into the life-threatening West Nile Encephalitis. Symptoms in severe cases include a high fever, headache, neck stiffness, muscle weakness, disorientation, tremors, and convulsions. This infection requires immediate medical treatment.

For more information, visit www.ccpa.net/vector.

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Cumberland County is the fastest growing County in the Commonwealth and offers the perfect mix of small town, suburban and rural living. Established in 1750, Cumberland County consistently maintains one of the lowest tax and unemployment rates in the state, while providing exceptional services for its more than 250,000 residents. More information on Cumberland County can be found at www.ccpa.net.

