



## Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

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

### Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022

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### **West Nile Virus Positive Mosquito Collections Found in Cumberland County**

*Mosquito Control Spray is set for Thursday, Aug. 11, in Carlisle Borough, North Middleton and Middlesex Townships*

**Carlisle, PA** – Cumberland County will be conducting an Adult Mosquito Control Spray tonight, Thursday, Aug. 11 from dusk to 11 p.m. in portions of Carlisle Borough, North Middleton, and Middlesex Townships. This measure comes after the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) confirmed the county's collection contained West Nile Virus (WNV) positive mosquitos in the past week, in the three municipalities.

"Our recent collections have revealed high populations of adult mosquitoes, some of which were determined to have West Nile Virus," said John Bitner, Cumberland County Vector Control Chief.

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.

Residents can submit mosquito complaints on our [mosquito complaint form](#). For more information, visit [www.ccpa.net/vector](http://www.ccpa.net/vector).

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