



Cumberland County Board of Commissioners

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County to Spray for Mosquitoes After 15 New West Nile Virus Samples Found: County Monitors First Detection of Jamestown Canyon Virus in Mosquito

First documented case of Jamestown Canyon Virus in a mosquito found in the county, but not the first in PA

Carlisle, PA – Cumberland County's Vector Control Office is conducting mosquito spraying due to 15 mosquitoes testing positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The county was notified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) of the positive samples. In addition, a mosquito tested positive for Jamestown Canyon Virus (JCV). This is the first documented case of JCV in a mosquito in the county, although not the first in Pennsylvania.

Mosquito spraying will take place in parts of Carlisle Borough, North Middleton Township, and South Middleton Township on Thursday, July 17; Monday, July 21; and Tuesday, July 22 from dusk to 11 p.m. The evening sprayings are being carried out in the areas that tested positive for West Nile virus. In case of rain, spraying will be postponed until the next suitable evening. [Spray route and additional details.](#)

WNV Positive Mosquito Samples Found:

- Boroughs: Carlisle, Camp Hill, Lemoyne, Mt. Holly Springs, New Cumberland, Shiremanstown
- Townships: Hampden, Lower Allen, Monroe, North Middleton, South Middleton

Areas that are not being sprayed are being monitored by Cumberland County Vector Control. Future treatments may be scheduled if additional positive samples are collected.

West Nile Virus:

WNV is not spread through person-to-person contact. One in five people infected with WNV may develop West Nile Fever, which causes mild symptoms such as fever, body aches, rash, and swollen lymph nodes. Most people recover in a few days with rest and fluids. Less than one percent of cases develop into the more serious West Nile Encephalitis. Severe symptoms may

include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, muscle weakness, disorientation, tremors, or convulsions, and require immediate medical attention.

Residents can help prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases by:

- Using mosquito repellents and wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants.
- Taking extra precautions around dusk, when female mosquitoes are most active.
- Securing window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Eliminating stagnant water around your property.
- Treating undrainable water sources with mosquito dunks or bits containing *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti), a larvicide that is safe for use around people and pets. These products are available at hardware stores and other local retailers.

JCV Positive Mosquito Sample Found:

Lower Allen Township

This area is monitored by Cumberland County Vector Control. Future treatments may be scheduled if more positive samples are collected.

Jamestown Canyon Virus:

JCV is spread to people by infected mosquitoes—not by coughing, sneezing, or contact with someone who is infected. The mosquito species involved in JCV transmission differ from those that transmit West Nile Virus and are aggressive biters. These species are typically associated with flooding events. JCV is primarily carried by deer, elk, and other hoofed mammals. Most JCV cases occur between April and September.

Many people infected with JCV do not have symptoms. However, the incubation period for people with symptoms ranges from a few days to 2 weeks.

- Initial symptoms can include fever, fatigue, and headache.
- Some people also have respiratory symptoms such as cough, sore throat, or runny nose.
- Jamestown Canyon virus can cause severe disease, including inflammation of the brain (encephalitis) or the membranes around the brain and spinal cord (meningitis).
- Symptoms of severe disease can include stiff neck, confusion, loss of coordination, difficulty speaking, or seizures.

About half of patients reported with JCV are hospitalized. Deaths associated with the virus are rare.

For more information, visit: cumberlandcountypa.gov/1103/Vector-Control.