



TRUMBULL COUNTY COMBINED HEALTH DISTRICT

"Building a Healthy Community"

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Health Commissioner

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www.tcchd.org



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2018

POSITIVE WEST NILE VIRUS DETECTED IN TRUMBULL COUNTY MOSQUITO

TRUMBULL COUNTY - Through our mosquito surveillance program, we have been informed by the Ohio Department of Health that Trumbull County had one mosquito pool test **POSITIVE** for West Nile Virus. The mosquito pool was from the bike trail in Champion Township. The sample was collected between August 21, 2018 and August 22, 2018.

To date, there have been zero human cases of West Nile Virus in Trumbull County. However, with the presence of positive West Nile Virus mosquito pool we are asking the community be vigilant against being bitten by a mosquito.

Use insect repellents when you go outdoors:

- Apply repellents on exposed skin registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Wear clothing treated with permethrin or another EPA-registered repellent for extra protection.
- Use products according to label instructions to optimize safety and effectiveness.
- Don't spray repellents on the skin under your clothing.

Take care during peak mosquito biting hours:

- Take extra care to use repellents from dusk to dawn.
- Wear light-colored clothing, long-sleeved shirts or jackets and long pants to protect against mosquito bites.
- Consider avoiding outdoor activities during peak mosquito biting hours.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors or in an unscreened structure.

Don't let mosquitoes breed around your home:

- Empty standing water from flowerpots, buckets, barrels, tarps/covers and wheel barrows on a regular basis.
- Discard trash such as tin cans, plastic containers and other water-holding containers that have accumulated on your property.
- Dispose of discarded tires properly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out.
- Change the water in pet dishes frequently.
- Replace the water in bird baths weekly.
- Check and clean clogged roof gutters at least twice annually so they will drain properly.
- Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with mosquito-eating fish.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, even those that are not being used.
- Keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren't being used.

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- Consider using products containing *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti), available at many garden and home improvement stores, to control mosquito larvae in containers that are too large to empty. Follow the label instructions.

This office will deploy larvicide at the above areas as well as continuing with our surveillance program.

Further information can be found at the Ohio Department of Health website (ohio.gov/mosquito)