

West Nile Virus in Peel Weekly Update May 26, 2004

This is a regular update on the status of West Nile Virus in the Region of Peel.
Updates will continue until October.

To report dead crows, stagnant water and suspected mosquito breeding sites,
or for general information about West Nile Virus:

Call Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700
Caledon residents call toll free at 905-584-2216

Surveillance Update

To date there are no WNV positive mosquitoes or humans reported anywhere in Canada. The Grey-Bruce Health Unit reported its first WNV positive crow this week.

United States

In the United States there is evidence of WNV in mosquitoes, birds and animals in several states including; Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas.

Peel

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2004	WEEK OF May 20 – 26				YEAR TO DATE			
	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
Dead Crow Reports	2*	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
Crows Positive for WNV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquito Pools Positive for WNV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Confirmed Human Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probable Human Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*One crow tested negative for WNV the week of May 10. The second crow was reported the following week but could not be tested because of the condition of the carcass.

Prevention and Control Measures

Peel Health has found WNV vector mosquito larvae in surface water in Brampton and Mississauga. Peel Health has referred two sites in each of these municipalities to Pestalto, the licensed pesticide applicator hired by Peel Health, for treatment with larvicides.

The larvicide methoprene will be applied to over 75,000 roadside catch basins in Brampton, Mississauga and the urban areas of Caledon. The projected start of this component of the larviciding program will be in mid-to-late June. The larviciding permits will allow the application of larvicides until September 30.

Fathead Minnow Project

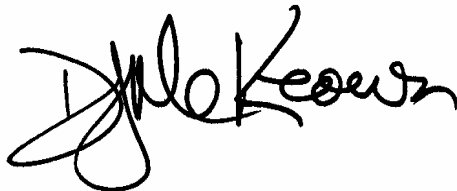
Peel Health has stocked a storm water management pond at the Caledon Wellness Centre with fathead minnows to control mosquito larvae in the pond. In 2003, Peel Health staff identified WNV vector mosquito larvae in this pond. This resulted in this pond being treated with the biological larvicide Bti on two occasions last year.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has determined that the fathead minnow is the best species to stock in storm water management ponds. This native species is abundant, widely distributed, an omnivorous feeder and is salt and temperature tolerant. Fathead minnows have been shown to consume 100 – 160 mosquito larvae a day.

The pond will be checked on a weekly basis.

Further information on West Nile Virus and Peel's 2004 WNV Prevention Plan can be found through:

- Health Line Peel at 905-799-7700, Caledon residents call toll-free at 905-584-2216
- www.peel-bugbite.ca
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care web site www.health.gov.on.ca



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Region of Peel