

## West Nile Virus in Peel Weekly Update July 20, 2005

This is a weekly 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

#### Peel

WNV positive mosquitoes were reported in Mississauga on July 12 and in Brampton on July 19. The mosquitoes reported on July 12 were the first identified in Canada. This past week Mississauga and Caledon each submitted a bird for testing and both were found negative.

#### Canada

There were two WNV positive birds reported this week in Quebec. There are now 12 in Canada - Ontario has eight and, as of this week Manitoba has two. Manitoba also has two positive mosquito batches. The Manitoba Health Minister has ordered spraying with malathion in Winnipeg and the Rural Municipality of West St. Paul because of high numbers of adult mosquitoes and evidence of WNV infection in mosquitoes.

#### United States

Cases of human WNV infection have increased from 13 to 25. The Great Lake states of Indiana and Ohio have reported one infection each. The majority of cases are still found in the western and south-western states. There has been one WNV related death reported in Missouri.

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2005	WEEK OF July 10 – July 16				YEAR TO DATE			
	Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
Target Birds Reported	4	0	1	3	37	10	16	11
Target Birds Sent for Testing	2	0	1	1	21	5	11	5
Target Birds 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

## Prevention and Control Measures

With the identification of WNV positive mosquitoes in Peel this week, residents are reminded to take precautions against bites. Past years have shown that human WNV infections that appear in August are often a result of being bitten during July.

Residents are reminded to:

- Avoid areas with high mosquito populations.
- Wear light-coloured clothing, including long sleeves, pants and a hat, to cover exposed skin. Use a mosquito repellent following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Take extra precautions at dusk and dawn when mosquito activity is higher.
- Drain any areas of standing or stagnant water on your property. Remove old tires, turn over pails, toys and wheelbarrows, and frequently change water in birdbaths. Also, keep your eavestroughs clear to avoid trapped water.

Pestalto is currently applying larvicides in Caledon and will be finished the second round of larviciding by July 22. The third round of applications will start in southern Mississauga the following week.

The catch basin larviciding schedule is posted on the WNV Web site, [www.peel-bugbite.ca](http://www.peel-bugbite.ca) and is updated regularly.

Peel Health is asking the public to report areas of **stagnant water**. Stagnant water is water that collects and stays for longer than seven days. It is an ideal breeding site for mosquitoes, especially as the weather gets warmer. Residents can call Health Line Peel to report stagnant water or visit Peel's WNV Web site [www.peel-bugbite.ca](http://www.peel-bugbite.ca) to fill in and submit a Suspected Mosquito Breeding Site Report form.

Further information on West Nile Virus and the Region of Peel's 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](http://www.peel-bugbite.ca)
- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care web site [www.health.gov.on.ca](http://www.health.gov.on.ca)



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