

West Nile Virus in Peel Update July 16, 2003

This is a regular update on the status of West Nile Virus in the Region of Peel.

To report dead crows, standing 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

A dead crow found in north Caledon on July 4 has tested positive for West Nile Virus. The bird was found near Highway 9 and Heart Lake Road. It is the first crow to test positive for the virus in the Region of Peel this year.

The dead crow confirms the presence of West Nile Virus in the Region this summer. However, overall surveillance information indicates the risk of human WNV infection remains low.

As of July 15, a total of 30 crows have tested positive for WNV in Ontario in 2003. In the USA, four human WNV cases have been reported, one from South Carolina and three from Texas. No human cases have been reported in Canada to date.

Mosquito numbers have increased dramatically in the adult mosquito traps located throughout the Region of Peel. There have been no positive mosquito pools in Peel.

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2003	WEEK OF July 7– July 12, 2003				YEAR TO DATE			
	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
Dead Crow Reports	8	0	5	3	69	7	32	30
Crows Positive for WNV	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	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

Peel Health released the *West Nile Virus in the Region of Peel 2002* report on July 10 at Regional Council. The document summarizes the findings of the WNV surveillance activities that were conducted by the Region of Peel in 2002. The research and findings within this report were used in the development of the Region of Peel's 2003 West Nile Virus Prevention and Control Plan. The report is available on the WNV Web site at www.peel-bugbite.ca.

The catch basin larviciding program has been expanded in Caledon to include catch basins in Cheltenham, Mono Mills, Alton, Inglewood, Palgrave, Bruno Ridge Estates, and Caledon Village. Also, two additional adult mosquito traps will be set up in north Caledon.

The second round of larvicide application to catch basins has been completed for Mississauga, Brampton, and Caledon. The third application of larvicide will begin next week in Mississauga.

Further information on West Nile Virus and the WNV Prevention and Control Plan in Peel 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 Ontario and Long-Term Care Web Site www.health.gov.on.ca



Dr. David McKeown,
Medical Officer of Health
Region of Peel