

West Nile Virus in Peel Update July 23, 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

As of July 22, 2003 there have been no positive mosquito pools reported in Ontario. The positive mosquito pool that was reported in York Region in June was found to be a false positive due to laboratory error.

There has been no increase in the number of crows that have tested positive in Ontario. Overall surveillance information indicates the risk of human WNV infection remains low.

Current surveillance for the Region of Peel does not indicate any increase in the risk of human West Nile Virus infection. In 2002 a dramatic increase in dead crow sightings occurred in late July followed by human cases.

As of July 22, 2003, the number of human WNV cases in the USA increased from four last week to nine. In total there are four cases in Texas and one case each in South Carolina, Ohio, Minnesota, Iowa and Alabama. No human cases have been reported in Canada to date.

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2003	WEEK OF July 13– July 19, 2003				YEAR TO DATE			
	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
Dead Crow Reports	3	1	2	0	73	8	34	31
Crows Positive for WNV	0	0	0	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

*** Note: The standard reporting week has been changed to conform to other reporting formats. Weekly mosquito data now comprises Saturday to Sunday.**

Prevention and Control Measures


The third round of larvicide application to roadside catch basins started on July 21 in Mississauga and will continue throughout Brampton, and Caledon. The larviciding program has been expanded to include the urban villages of Caledon. To date catch basins in Cheltenham, Mono Mills, Alton, Inglewood, Palgrave, Bruno Ridge Estates, and Caledon Village have received the first round of larvicide.

Recent testing has shown mosquito larvae in a small number of storm water management ponds in the Region. These areas will continue to be routinely monitored and if vector mosquitoes are identified in these ponds then Bti may be applied.

A second West Nile Virus information pamphlet will be delivered to all households in Peel beginning the last week of July. The information will emphasize measures to avoid mosquito bites and reduce mosquito breeding sites. The pamphlet will also include details of the contingency plan for the use of adulticide to control adult mosquitoes. Adulticide will be used only if there is a significant risk of West Nile Virus to human health.

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



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