

## **West Nile Virus in Peel**

### **Weekly Update September 8, 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 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**

##### **Peel**

WNV activity in Peel birds and mosquitoes continues to increase. Mississauga and Brampton have each reported a WNV positive crow this past week. The crows were found in areas where WNV activity has already been documented this season. To date, there are 13 WNV positive birds in Peel and four WNV positive mosquito batches. No Peel residents have tested positive for WNV infection this year.

##### **Canada**

Saskatchewan reported two new human cases of WNV infection bringing the national total to 17. In Ontario, there have been two cases reported in Toronto, three in Windsor-Essex and one in York. Additionally, there are two in Quebec, two in Manitoba and seven in Saskatchewan.

WNV infected birds are found in five provinces. There are a total of 361, up from 302, WNV infected birds this week – Alberta (4), Quebec (83), Ontario (229), Manitoba (16) and Saskatchewan (29). Across Canada, a total of 5,752 birds have been submitted for WNV testing.

##### **United States**

The number of human cases of WNV infection in the U.S. has increased again this past week, rising to 1,191 from 1,053. The number of WNV related deaths reported in the U.S. has risen from 28 last week to 30 this week. The deaths have been primarily in the south and south-west states with five in Arizona, nine in California, two in Texas and three in Louisiana.

Cases of human WNV infection in the Great Lake states have risen by 16 this week, increasing from 38 to 54. Illinois had eight additional cases and one death this past week. Wisconsin saw an increase of five cases but no deaths.

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2004	August 28 – September 3				YEAR TO DATE			
	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Peel Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
Dead Crow Reports	4	2	1	1	68	19	41	8
Crows Positive for WNV	2	1	0	1	13	4	5**	4*
Mosquito Batches Positive for WNV	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	2
Confirmed Human Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probable Human Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NOTE: \*Mississauga has reported one positive blue jay  
 \*\*Caledon has reported one WNV positive blue jay

### Prevention and Control Measures

Pestalto, the licensed pesticide applicator hired by Peel Health has completed the fourth and final round of larviciding in Peel. Peel Health is no longer asking for stagnant water complaints from the public. The larviciding of known mosquito breeding sites will continue on an as needed basis. The pesticide Bti will be used to larvicide surface water identified as containing West Nile Virus vector mosquito larvae.

The fourth round of larviciding will be indicated by a green dot on the grate of the catch basins. The third round is indicated by an orange dot, the second round was indicated by a white dot and the first round dot was blue.

### Crane Flies

Peel Health has received several calls from residents reporting large mosquitoes. These are actually Crane Flies. They look similar to mosquitoes but are approximately four times the size of the average mosquito; the body is about one inch in length. The life span of an adult Crane Fly is four to seven days. The Crane Fly larvae, also known as leatherjackets, damage lawns when they move from the soil to the surface. The adult Crane Flies are harmless to humans.

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](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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