

## West Nile Virus in Peel Weekly Update September 28, 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 or blue jays, 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**  
**visit [www.peel-bugbite.ca](http://www.peel-bugbite.ca)**

### Surveillance

#### Peel

There are no confirmed cases of human WNV infection this week, although one case is under investigation to determine whether or not it is travel-related. There have been three cases reported this season - Brampton reported one and Mississauga reported two. Peel Health will continue to collect data about human cases all year.

Three out of four birds submitted for testing this week were found positive for WNV. All three are from Mississauga. Birds will no longer be collected and tested as of September 30.

There were no WNV positive batches of mosquitoes reported this week. Mosquitoes will no longer be collected or tested as of September 30.

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2005	September 18 to 24				YEAR TO DATE			
	Total	Bram	Caledon	Miss	Total	Bram	Caledon	Miss
Target Birds Reported	8	1	1	6	142	40	37	65
Target Birds Sent for Testing	4	0	1	3	76	18	21	37
Target Birds Positive for WNV	3	0	0	3	32	9	5	18
Mosquito Pools Positive for WNV	0	0	0	0	24	6	2	16
Confirmed Human Cases	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	2
Probable Human Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## **Ontario**

The total number of human cases of WNV infection in Ontario has increased from 70 to 82. The majority of cases are in the Central East area with 43 cases.

The number of WNV-positive mosquito batches has increased from 274 to 295. The number of WNV-positive birds has increased by from 277 to 289. Overall, numbers have been diminishing.

## **Canada**

There are 145 cases of human WNV infection, up from 127. The majority of cases, 81, are in Ontario. Manitoba has the second most at 46. There have been no new WNV-related deaths in Canada this week. To date there have been eight deaths attributed to WNV infection - one in Quebec, five in Ontario, one in Manitoba and one in Saskatchewan.

There were eight WNV positive birds reported this past week bringing the national total to 442. Ontario has the most at 295. The number of WNV positive mosquito batches has increased from 658 to 675. This season, WNV positive birds have been reported from Alberta to Quebec.

## **United States**

The number of cases of human WNV infection has increased to 1,804 from 1,299. There have been a total of 52 WNV-related deaths in the U.S. this year. Every state except West Virginia has reported WNV activity in mosquitoes, birds or humans. California has been the hardest hit with 681 human cases of WNV infection, followed by South Dakota with 208 and Illinois with 172.

## **Prevention and Control Measures**

Despite the cooler evenings it is still important to protect against mosquito bites until the first hard frost. Residents are reminded to use personal protection measures against mosquito bites. They include:

- 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 and follow the manufacturer's instructions
- Take extra precautions between 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 bird baths. Also, keep your eavestroughs clear to avoid trapped water.

Pestalto, the licensed pesticide applicator hired by Peel Health to apply larvicides to catch basins will no longer be larviciding as of September 30.



Dr. Howard Shapiro  
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Region of Peel