

## West Nile Virus in Peel Weekly Update August 31, 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

Peel reported its' second probable case of human West Nile Virus infection this week. A Mississauga resident tested positive, was hospitalized for a few days and is now recovering at home. The first case of human WNV infection was also in Mississauga.

Four birds were found positive for WNV this past week – one in Mississauga and three in Brampton. There was one batch of WNV positive mosquitoes found in Mississauga this week increasing the Peel total for the year to 19. There are fourteen in Mississauga, four in Brampton and one in Caledon.

#### Ontario

The number of new human cases of WNV infection this week in Ontario, including one in Peel, brings the provincial total to 27. Toronto has reported two WNV related deaths. The number of WNV positive mosquito batches has increased from to 188 with eighteen of these in Peel and sixteen in nearby Halton. The number of WNV positive birds has increased to 293.

West Nile Virus Surveillance Region of Peel 2005	WEEK OF August 21 - 27				YEAR TO DATE			
	Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
Target Birds Reported	11	5	0	6	109	32	33	44
Target Birds Sent for Testing	9*	4*	0	5*	61	16	18	27
Target Birds Positive for WNV	4*	3*	0	1*	20	7	4	9
Mosquito Pools Positive for WNV	1	0	0	1	19	4	1	14
Confirmed Human Cases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probable Human Cases	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2

\*Results for birds picked up in week 33 came in week 34 - 7 birds sent to test- 3 positive (2 Brampton; 1 Mississauga) / 1 negative (1 Mississauga) / 3 not tested (3 Mississauga)

## Canada

WNV activity continues to be confined to Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. All five have reported positive mosquito batches, birds and/or humans. There are 48 human cases of WNV infection, one in Quebec, 27 in Ontario, 14 in Manitoba, one in Saskatchewan, four in Alberta and one in Nova Scotia but it is travel-related. The two WNV-related deaths in Toronto are the first this year in Canada.

## United States

California continues to be at the centre of human WNV infection in the U.S. The number of infections increased from 146 to 234 this week. These cases account for almost fifty per cent of the U.S.'s 501 cases. In the Great Lake states, Illinois is the hot spot with 28 cases of human WNV infection.

## Prevention and Control Measures

With a second case of human WNV infection in Peel this week, and two deaths in Toronto, residents are reminded to use personal protection measures against mosquito bites. These 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 following 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 started round four of road side catch basin larviciding program on August 15. Round four has been completed in Brampton and in Mississauga with the exception of zones where catch basin vacuuming is being undertaken. Treatment of Caledon catch basins will begin on August 26. Treated catch basins will be identified with a green dot in round four.

With the completion of round four, the larviciding program will be finished for 2005. The treatment of surface water and/or storm water retention ponds for mosquitoes will be done on an as-needed basis.

Stagnant water reporting will be discontinued as of August 31.



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Region of Peel