

West Nile Virus in Peel July 22 – 28, 2007

West Nile Virus Surveillance 2007	Week of July 22 – 28, 2007				Year to Date			
	Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga	Total	Brampton	Caledon	Mississauga
WNV-Positive Crows and Blue Jays	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WNV-Positive Mosquito Pools	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

Surveillance

To date, 305 mosquito batches have been tested for WNV and all were negative for the virus. A total of 33 dead crows and blue jays have been reported and those specimens suitable for testing were sent to the laboratory and all tested negative.

To report dead crows and blue jays, residents are asked to call **from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and statutory holidays.**

Peel Public Health received and investigated 226 stagnant water reports from Peel residents this season.

There have been no human cases of WNV reported in Peel.

Mosquito Reduction

The third round of roadside catch basin larviciding commenced in southern Mississauga on July 23, 2007 and is currently progressing north of Eglinton Avenue. Larviciding crews expect to be in Brampton later this week. The third round is indicated by a pink dot on the catch basin grate. It takes three to four weeks to apply larvicides to all roadside catch basins in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon.

Larviciding of catch basins in the green spaces of parks in Peel has been completed. The treatment of surface water sites on public lands has been ongoing since early May 2007.

Public Education

At the end of July and throughout August and September, the risk of WNV infection is at its highest. The best way to avoid infection is to protect yourself against mosquitoes by:

- Avoiding areas with large numbers of mosquitoes
- Wearing light-coloured clothing, including long sleeves, long pants, socks and a hat whenever you are outdoors (even when you are in your backyard), especially at dusk and at dawn
- Using only those personal insect repellents that are registered for use in Canada and remember to apply repellent according to the manufacturer's directions

For more tips on protecting yourself and your family, please visit www.peel-bugbite.ca.

WNV in Ontario

To date, there have been 26 WNV-positive birds reported in Ontario – 11 in Thunder Bay District Health Unit, nine in Northwestern Health Unit, two in Simcoe-Muskoka, one in York Region, one in Kingston Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, one in Chatham – Kent, and one in Sudbury. There have been no human cases of WNV illness reported in Ontario.

The first WNV positive batch of mosquitoes in Ontario has been reported in Windsor-Essex.

WNV in Canada

Manitoba is reporting the highest amount WNV activity in Canada. It has reported 232 positive batches of mosquitoes and 25 human cases. Saskatchewan is second highest with 63 positive mosquito batches, 2 human cases and 3 positive cases in horses, while Alberta has reported 13 positive mosquito batches.

WNV in United States

There have been 122 human cases of WNV reported in the USA, including 28 in South Dakota, 27 in California, 14 in North Dakota, and eight in Mississippi. Three of the most recent cases occurred in Minnesota and Illinois, both of which border the Great Lakes.

For more information about WNV and the Region of Peel's WNV Prevention Plan, call 905-799-7700, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Caledon residents call toll-free at 905-584-2216.



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