From May 30 to September 30, 2012, the Region of Peel, under the authority of the Medical Officer of Health, will conduct a program to control mosquito larvae (immature mosquitoes) in stagnant water in order to prevent their development into carriers of West Nile Virus. The program will be carried out in the city of Brampton, the city of Mississauga, and the town of Caledon.

The larvicide Methoprene (product name — Altosid Pellets Methoprene 4.25%, registration number-21809 and/or Altosid XR Briquettes 2.1%, registration number-27694) or the larvicide Bacillus sphaericus Strain 2362 (product name — Vectolex WSP (50 BsITU/mg), registration number 28009) will be applied to municipal catch basins.

The larvicide Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti) H-14, product name — VectoBac 200G (registration #18158), VectoBac 1200L (registration #21062) and/or VectoLex CG (registration #28008) will be applied in granular or liquid form to selected bodies of surface water (such as ditches and ponds), depending on the results of testing for the presence of mosquito larvae. Signs will be posted at surface water locations where larvicide is applied.

Methoprene, Bti and Bacillus sphaericus are active ingredients approved for use by the federal government. Larviciding applications will be carried out under permit from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. The larvicides will be applied by licensed applicators of Pestalto Environmental Health Services under contract to the Region of Peel.

For further information about West Nile Virus and other mosquito reduction initiatives in the Region of Peel, please call Region of Peel—Public Health at 905-799-7700 or visit peel-bugbite.ca. Caledon residents call toll free at 905-584-2216.