



Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Division of Disease Control

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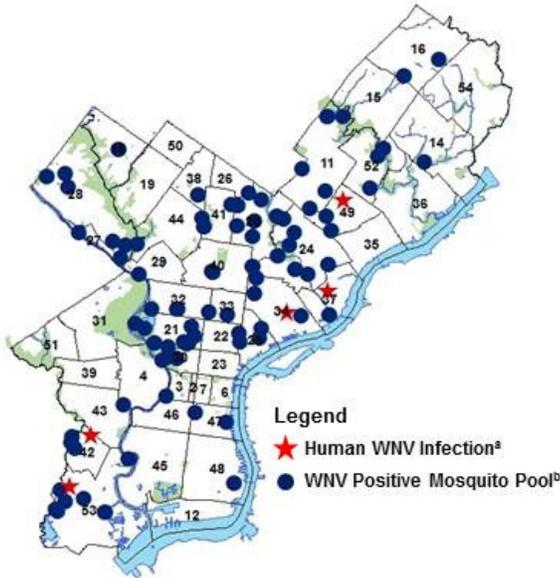
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2014 Philadelphia West Nile Virus Activity Report
November 20, 2014

During the 2014 season, 4 Philadelphia residents developed neuroinvasive West Nile Virus (WNV) infections. All cases were ≥ 65 years of age and required hospitalization. One WNV infection resulted in death; this case was in their 80's and became ill in early September. In addition, the American Red Cross reported 1 asymptomatic presumptive viremic donor from Philadelphia. In 2014, the cumulative mosquito pool positivity rate (13%) remained higher than the median historic annual rate (3%) and slightly lower than 2012 (18%), the last peak WNV season.

From May through October, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) in collaboration with the PA Department of Environmental Protection conducts mosquito management activities throughout Philadelphia, which entails surveillance and identification of mosquito pools, testing pools for WNV, and control activities. At the start of the 2014 season, PDPH applied larvicide to 46,752 catch basins throughout the City. Twenty-five ground spraying events were also conducted in areas with WNV positive pools.

West Nile Virus Mosquito and Human Case Surveillance, Philadelphia PA,
Cumulative 2014 Season Update



*Includes 1 presumptive viremic donor
^Twenty sites tested positive 2-4 times

Table with 2 columns: Category and 2014 Season (5/1-10/31). Rows include Mosquito Pools Tested (882), WNV Positive Pools (112), Humans Tested (35), Human WNV Cases (4), Neuroinvasive WNV (4), WNV Fever (0), Human WNV Deaths (1), and Presumptive Viremic Donors (1).

^882 mosquito pools at 349 different mosquito trapping sites
^Testing among case reports received by PDPH only

State and National WNV Activity Reports

- Pennsylvania Department of Health
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

WNV Testing and Reporting Requirements for Human Surveillance in Philadelphia:

- Collect CSF (from symptom onset-day 8) and serum (day 8-14 from patients with unexplained encephalitis or meningitis for WNV IgM testing.
• Report suspected and confirmed WNV infections (neuroinvasive or non-neuroinvasive illness) and encephalitis cases to PDPH by telephone at 215-685-6740 (or 215-686-4514 after hours). Reports also may be faxed to 215-238-6947.

Advise your patients to:

- Use repellent with DEET (≥20% to also prevent tick bites), Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus when outdoors, especially during peak mosquito hours (dusk and dawn).
• Regularly check and remove standing water outside their home (e.g., unused pools, tires).
• Keep well-fitted screens on windows and doors.
• Report mosquito problems and dead bird sightings to the PDPH Vector Control Program's