



Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
**Division of Disease Control**

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 Health Commissioner

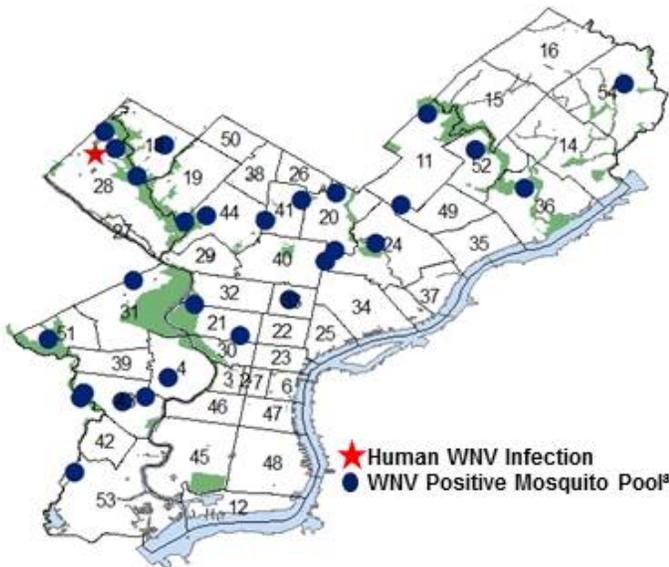
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 Acting Deputy Health Commissioner &  
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**2016 Philadelphia West Nile Virus Activity Report**  
**August 25, 2016**

The first human West Nile virus (WNV) case from Philadelphia for the 2016 season was identified during Morbidity Week 32. A resident in their 70s developed neuroinvasive WNV and was subsequently hospitalized. Positive mosquito pools also continued to be identified in the Northern and Western regions of the City. Higher rates of WNV activity in mosquitoes will continue for the next several weeks through September.

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 (eliminating breeding sites, larviciding catch basins, ground spraying, etc.). Targeted treatments to control adult mosquito populations will be applied to areas with WNV positive pools as needed.

**West Nile Virus Mosquito and Human Case Surveillance, Philadelphia PA,  
 Morbidity Week 32 and Cumulative 2016 Season Update**



<sup>a</sup>Twenty-nine sites tested positive 1-4 times.

**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 215-685-6742 (or 215-686-4514 after hours). Reports also may be faxed to 215-238-6947.

	<b>Week 32 (8/7–8/13)</b>	<b>2016 Season (5/1–8/13)</b>
Mosquito Pools Tested	48	587 <sup>a</sup>
WNV Positive Pools	2	37
Humans Tested <sup>b</sup>	1	12
Human WNV Cases	1	1
Neuroinvasive WNV	1	1
WNV Fever	0	0

<sup>a</sup>587 mosquito pools at 168 different mosquito trapping sites

<sup>b</sup>Testing among case reports received by PDPH only

State and National WNV Activity Reports

- [Pennsylvania Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

**Advise your patients to:**

- Use repellent with DEET (≥20% to also prevent tick bites), Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus when outdoors.
- 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 Mosquito Complaint hotline at 215-685-9000.