

#### **Division of Disease Control**

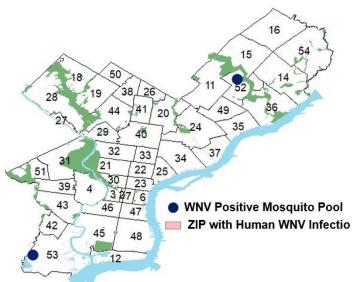
CHERYL BETTIGOLE, MD, MPH Health Commissioner COLEMAN TERRELL
Director, Division of Disease Control

# 2022 Philadelphia West Nile Virus Activity Report June 23, 2022

On May 24th, the first mosquito pool infected with West Nile Virus (WNV) in Philadelphia for the 2022 season was collected near Pennypack Park. Positive mosquito pools are anticipated to be identified across the city in the coming weeks. No human cases have been reported in the City. While the number of human cases of WNV and location of outbreaks has varied by season across the country, identification of mosquitoes infected with WNV remains the best predictor of increased risk for human infection in a given location.

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.). Since May 2022, 36 locations in Philadelphia have been treated to control larval mosquito populations.

### West Nile Virus Mosquito and Human Case Surveillance, Philadelphia PA, Morbidity Week 24 and Cumulative 2022 Season Update



|                                    | Week 24<br>(6/12-6/18) | 2022 Season<br>(5/1–6/18) |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mosquito Pools Tested <sup>a</sup> | 8                      | 86                        |
| WNV Positive Pools                 | 1                      | 2                         |
| Humans Tested <sup>b</sup>         | 0                      | 1                         |
| Human WNV Cases                    | 0                      | 0                         |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>86 mosquito pools at 40 different mosquito trapping sites

## 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.

#### 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Testing among case reports received by PDPH only State and National WNV Activity Reports