Philadelphia Department of Public Health



Division of Disease Control

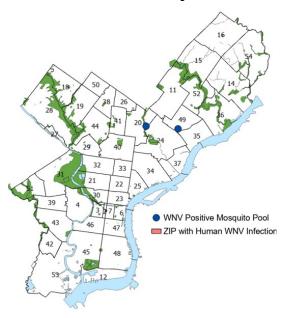
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2024 Philadelphia West Nile Virus Activity Report June 21, 2024

On May 8th, the first mosquito pool infected with West Nile Virus (WNV) in Philadelphia for the 2024 season was collected in Northeast Philadelphia. 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, 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 2024, 30 locations in Philadelphia were treated to control larval mosquito populations.

West Nile Virus Mosquito and Human Case Surveillance, Philadelphia PA, Morbidity Week 23 and Cumulative 2024 Season Update



| | Week 23 | 2024 Season |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | (6/2-6/8) | (5/1-6/8) |
| Mosquito Pools Tested ^a | 66 | 126 |
| WNV Positive Pools | 0 | 2 |
| Human WNV Cases | 0 | 0 |
| Neuroinvasive WNV | 0 | 0 |
| WNV Fever | 0 | 0 |
| Human WNV Deaths | 0 | 0 |
| Presumptive Viremic Donors | 0 | 0 |

^a126 mosquito pools at 40 different mosquito trapping sites 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 serum (3–8 days after onset) and CSF for patients with unexplained encephalitis or meningitis. Absence of detectable antibodies in serum within 8 days does not exclude possible WNV.
- Report suspected and confirmed WNV infections and encephalitis cases to PDPH by telephone at 215-685-6741 (215-686-4514 after hours) or fax at 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.