



Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Division of Disease Control

JAMES W. BUEHLER, MD
 Health Commissioner

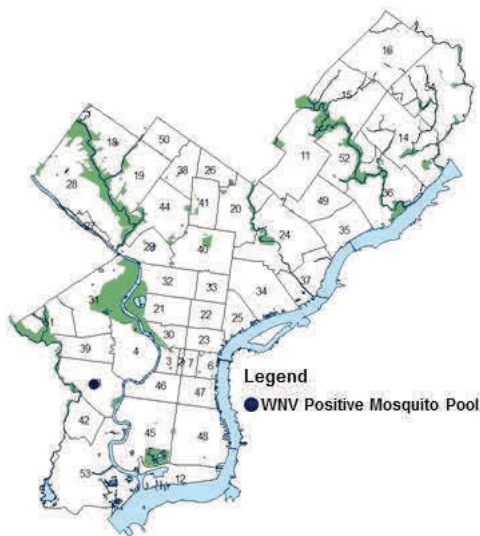
CAROLINE C. JOHNSON, MD
 Director, Division of Disease Control
 & Interim Deputy Health Commissioner

2015 Philadelphia Arboviral Activity Report
July 20, 2015

On July 2nd, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) collected the city’s first mosquito pool infected with West Nile Virus (WNV) for the 2015 season in West Philadelphia. Positive mosquito pools also have been recently identified in neighboring counties in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. No human cases have been reported in the city or across Pennsylvania. While the number of human cases of WNV and location of outbreaks has varied by season across the country, identification of mosquitos pools 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.). 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 27 and Cumulative 2015 Season Update**



	Week 27 (7/5–7/11)	2015 Season (5/1–7/11)
Mosquito Pools Tested	55	164 ^a
WNV Positive Pools	0	1
Humans Tested ^b	0	5
Human WNV Cases	0	0

^a164 mosquito pools at 101 different mosquito trapping sites

^bTesting 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 Mosquito Complaint hotline at 215-685-9027.