

COUNTY OF GREENE
GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Phone: (724) 852-5278

Fax (724) 852-5341

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dustin Teegarden

**MOSQUITO SPRAYING IN GREENE COUNTY TO
CONTROL THREAT OF WEST NILE VIRUS**

The PA Department of Environmental Protection's West Nile Virus Program, with the cooperation of the Greene County West Nile Virus Program will be conducting a Thermal Fog mosquito adulticide in Franklin Township, Morgan Township and Waynesburg Borough. The following specific areas will be treated. Reesemans Trailer Park and sewage treatment plant located on Country Club Road in Morgan Township. The Waynesburg Borough sewage treatment plant and the adjacent Meadowlark Park which are located in Franklin Township and Waynesburg Borough.

The adulticiding operations will take place between the hours of 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on Thursday, August 21, 2008. High populations of adult mosquitoes capable of transmitting West Nile Virus have been detected in these areas. Permanone 30-30 will be the product utilized in the Golden Eagle hand-held thermal fogger, the product will be applied at a rate not to exceed 0.007 pounds of permethrin per acre. This product is designed to provide quick knockdown and effective control of adult mosquitoes. Thermal fogging produces a thick, dense, smoke that is similar to a structure on fire. Police and fire departments of the communities being treated will be notified.

Residents in the above listed areas please take precautions during this fogging event by:

- Staying indoors with all windows and doors closed; and air conditioner units turned off
- If possible place all pets indoors
- Stay indoors until fog has visibly lifted – Approximately 1 hour
- Cover vegetables if possible please be sure to wash vegetables prior to eating.

The chemical being used for this treatment is Permanone 30-30 it is not harmful to humans, livestock, birds or other wildlife based on the concentrations being used in the application.

If you have questions, please call.

Ed Farrell
Southwest Coordinator
West Nile Virus
Office: 412-442-4301

Dustin Teegarden
Greene County Conservation District
West Nile Virus Coordinator
Office: 724-852-5278 E-mail: gccd@co.greene.pa.us

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West Nile Virus is a disease that is spread by infected mosquitos. So the best defense against the West Nile Virus is not giving them a place to breed.

Here are some things you can do around your home.

Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water holding containers that have collected on your property.

Pay special attention to discarded tires. Stagnant water in tires is where most mosquitoes breed.

Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers left outdoors.

Have clogged roof gutters cleaned every year, particularly if the leaves from surrounding trees have a tendency to plug up the drains. Roof gutters can produce millions of mosquitoes each season.

Turn over plastic wading pools when not in use. Stagnant water in a wading pool becomes a place for mosquitoes to breed.

Turn over wheelbarrows and don't let water stagnate in birdbaths. Both provide breeding habitats for domestic mosquitoes.

Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with fish. Water gardens can become major mosquito producers if they are allowed to stagnate. Clean and chlorinate swimming pools not in use. A swimming pool left untended by a family on vacation for a month can produce enough mosquitoes to result in neighborhood-wide complaints. Mosquitoes may even breed in the water that collects on pool covers.

It is not necessary to limit any outdoor activities, unless local officials advise you otherwise. However, you can and should try to reduce your risk of being bitten by mosquitoes. In addition to reducing stagnant water in your yard, make sure all windows and doors have screens, and that all screens are in good repair.

The above information came from the Pennsylvania *WNV Surveillance Program* website. For more information about West Nile Virus and the states surveillance and control program, go to www.westnile.state.pa.us.