

COUNTY OF GREENE
GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Tuesday, September 2, 2008 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Dustin Teegarden Phone: (724) 852-5278 Fax (724) 852-5341

**MOSQUITO SPRAYING IN GREENE COUNTY TO CONTROL
THREAT OF WEST NILE VIRUS on Thursday, Sept 4, 2008**

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PA DEP) West Nile Virus Program, with the cooperation of the Greene County West Nile Virus Program will be conducting mosquito spraying in two locations in Greene County. High populations of adult mosquitoes capable of transmitting West Nile Virus have been detected in these areas. As a result of this reoccurrence of high mosquito populations, and the threat to public health, DEP and County officials will conduct a second controlled treatment during the evening of Thursday, September 4, 2008:

Morgan Township, Greene County an Ultra Low Volume (ULV) mosquito adulticide in. The specific areas to be treated are the following:

- Reesmans Trailer Park and sewage treatment plant,
- Greene County Memorial Park Cemetery
- Rt. 188 from Reesmans, east to Plant Road (TR651)
- Country Club Road (TR584)
- Rt. 188 from Reesmans, west to log cabin on the right side
- Rt. 221 north off Rt.188 to Happy Valley Road (TR595)
- Browns Run Road (TR616) off Rt. 188 to 100 yards past Pyle Rd. (T612)
- Reservoir Hill Rd. (T855) off Rt. 188 to reservoir
- Beagle Club Road off Rt. 188 to junction with Homeville Rd. (TR624)
- Homeville Rd. to junction with Rt. 188

Weather permitting the control operation will take place at dark between the hours of 8:45pm and 10:45pm on Thursday, September 4, 2008. DEP will conduct a truck-mounted adult mosquito control spray in the targeted area. PA. DEP Biologist Ed Farrell and Greene County WNV Coordinator Dustin Teegarden will be on-site for the control operations. The business license for PA. DEP is BU 6464. The product utilized will be Biomist 3+15 applied at a rate of .75 ounces per acre. This product is designed to provide quick knockdown and effective control of adult mosquitoes. Please contact the Greene County Conservation District if you have any questions or concerns, or if you are aware of any mosquito-infested areas near the Reesman Trailer Park or Rt. 188 area.

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

- Staying indoors with all windows, doors, and air conditioner units turned off
- If possible place all pets indoors
- Stay indoors until mist has visibly lifted – Approximately 15-30 minutes after application

This spraying procedure will be a rolling mist that travels approximately 100-150ft depending on wind speed, vegetation, humidity and topography. This process has been chosen due to the close proximity to roads that will allow visibility and minimize the need for road closures. The Ultra Low Volume spraying does not produce the thick, billowing smoke that the thermal fogging produced that was applied August 21st in the area. The spray that will be used will not leave residues on vehicles, homes etc. Covering vegetables is not required during the event. Once the vehicle has passed residences please remain indoors for approximately 15-30 minutes for the mist to dissipate before resuming normal activities. The Adulticide being used for this treatment is Biomist 3+15 it is not harmful to humans, livestock, birds or other wildlife based on the concentrations being used in the application.

Franklin Township and Waynesburg Borough, Greene County a Thermal Fog mosquito adulticide will take place. The following specific areas will be treated 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 9:45 pm and 12:00am on Thursday, Sept. 4, 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 event by:

- Staying indoors with all windows, doors, and air conditioner units turned off
- If possible place all pets indoors
- Stay indoors until fog has visibly lifted – Approximately 30 minutes after application

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.

The Greene County Conservation District will have staff on hand the evening of the spraying to answer questions until 9:30 pm, please call 724-852-5278. A pre application meeting will be held at the Jefferson-Morgan High School parking lot at 7:00 to 7:30PM and at the Franklin Township Municipal Bldg. parking lot from 7:45 to 8:15 to answer questions as well.

West Nile Virus is a disease that is spread by infected mosquitoes. 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.

If you have questions, please call:

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West Nile Virus
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Office Hours:
Mon-Fri 8:00AM to 4:30PM
Thurs Sept 4th 8:00AM to 9:30 PM