



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mosquitoes Test Positive for West Nile Virus

MEDINA, OHIO, September 8, 2021 – Medina County Health Department received confirmation that several samples of mosquitoes taken from surveillance traps around the county have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). These are not human cases.

As part of a statewide mosquito surveillance program, the Health Department treats approximately 52 miles of road ditches throughout the county along with the storms sewers and catch basins in the county’s three cities and five villages. Private and public properties with wetlands, woodland pools, or retention ponds are also part of the treatment plan. Environmentally friendly larvicide, pesticides, and traps, are used to kill mosquitos before they are able to breed and lay eggs.

Because of the rise in positive mosquito samples in Medina as well as across the state, Medina County Health Department wants to take this opportunity to remind residents to take all personal precautions to prevent mosquito bites.

The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites:

- When outdoors, use repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, some oil of lemon eucalyptus or para menthane-diol. Follow the directions on the package.
- Many mosquitos are most active from dusk to dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours.
- Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children’s wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren’t being used.

For more information about the Medina County Health Department mosquito control program or West Nile Virus, visit www.medinahealth.org or call 330-723-9688, option 3.

About Medina County Health Department

The public health mission is to prevent, promote, and protect health. You can trust the Health Department to keep you informed and provide reliable information on what you can do during this outbreak and beyond. The Medina County Health Department has protected your health since 1918. Services are partially supported by your property tax health levy. Equal opportunity provider.