

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Five Additional Mosquito Samples Confirm West Nile Virus Presence

MEDINA, OHIO, July 24, 2025 – The Medina County Health Department (MCHD) received notice from the Ohio Department of Health that five more mosquito samples collected as part of the mosquito surveillance program have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). This brings the total of WNV positive samples to eight in Medina County for 2025. The five new mosquito samples were identified at three locations: Brongers Park in Hinckley, Hubbard Valley Park in Seville, and Letha House Park in Spencer. West Nile virus has been confirmed in mosquito populations across at least 16 other counties in Ohio, according to the Ohio Department of Health.

There have not been any identified human cases of WNV in Medina County. There has been one confirmed human case of WNV in Fulton County, Ohio. The virus generally doesn't lead to severe illness, however, it can still make you sick. Common symptoms include fever, headache, and body aches.

Being aware and taking preventive steps can help decrease the spread of the virus. MCHD encourages residents to take an active part in helping reduce the possibility of mosquito disease transmission by following these steps:

- **Insect repellent** – When outdoors, use repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, para menthane-diol, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Follow the directions on the package.
- **Protective clothing** – Wearing lightweight and light-colored pants and full arm shirts can help prevent mosquito bites.
- **Avoid peak hours** – Mosquitos are most active in the mornings, late afternoon, and evenings. Limiting outdoor activity during these times may help avoid mosquito bites.
- **Screens and netting** - Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- **Remove mosquito breeding sites around your home** - 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 its side when not in use.

The Health Department continues to monitor mosquito samples and will continue to treat road ditches, storm sewers, and catch basins throughout Medina County. Environmentally friendly larvicide and pesticides are 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.

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