

Mosquito Control and Eastern Equine Encephalitis Awareness

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(Newton, NJ) September is here and fall is just around the corner, but the Sussex County Division of Health, Office of Mosquito Control would like to remind residents that mosquitoes are still quite active this time of year. The Office of Mosquito Control urges Sussex County residents to protect themselves from mosquitoes and the diseases that they carry by reducing mosquito habitats around their yards, remaining indoors at dusk and dawn, wearing long sleeves and pants, and applying EPA-registered repellents.

Under the right environmental conditions, mosquitoes can develop and emerge as adults in as little as one week becoming quite a nuisance. More importantly, some species of adult mosquitoes can carry and transmit diseases such as West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).

The Sussex County Division of Health, Office of Mosquito Control is investigating three positive EEE samples of adult mosquitoes in three different locations in Sussex County. This is the first time EEE has been reported in Sussex County, NJ. The Sussex County Office of Mosquito Control will continue to trap and test adult mosquitoes for disease in addition to conducting ultra-low-volume truck applications within the immediate areas of known disease prevalence.

Small amounts of stagnant water provide an ideal location for mosquitoes to lay their eggs. Residents can play a primary role in mosquito control by eliminating habitats where mosquitoes breed by following these tips:

- Clean roof gutters at least annually.
- Remove any unnecessary containers from the property (flower pots/trays, tires, toys, boats, buckets).
- Drain and rinse birdbaths twice a week.
- Aerate and/or stock ornamental ponds with fish.
- Configure tarps to drain any rainwater.
- Close pools when not in use; pool covers can collect rainwater and provide a habitat for mosquitoes.

Protect Yourself From Mosquito-Borne Diseases! Dump, Drain, and Defend!

For more information on how to protect yourself, your home or the products used by the Office of Mosquito Control, please call 973-940-5225 or visit www.sussex.nj.us/mosquito.

For additional information about Eastern Equine Encephalitis, please visit the New Jersey Department of Health at <https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/eee.shtml> and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

at <https://www.cdc.gov/EasternEquineEncephalitis/>. Information about West Nile virus can be obtained by visiting <https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/westnile.shtml> and <https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/>.