



The Season's First Detection of the West Nile Virus.

On July 20, 2026, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services confirmed the season's first West Nile Virus positive test pool in Tuscola County. The virus was detected in a sample of Culex mosquitoes collected in Indianfields township.

Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement will continue surveillance, testing and all control efforts with extra focus on positive test pool areas in the county. Although the risk of mosquito-borne virus infections remains low, precautions should still be taken to reduce mosquito exposure.

The best way to protect yourself and family from mosquito bites include:

- Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are most active, especially between dusk and dawn.
- Apply insect repellent that contains DEET or picaridin, or other EPA-approved products according to label instructions. Consult a physician before using repellents on infants.
- Wear light-colored, long pants and long-sleeved shirts when outdoors. Consider applying repellent to clothing.
- Ensure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens; repair or replace any damaged screens. Keep doors and windows closed, particularly at night.
- Eliminate standing water around your home that can serve as mosquito breeding sites, such as water in buckets, wading pools, old tires, and other containers.

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