



TUSCOLA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

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West Nile Virus Activity Increases

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Routine mosquito-borne disease surveillance conducted by Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement along with results from test pools sent to MDHHS, has detected an increase in the West Nile Virus in Tuscola County. The 4 confirmed WNV positive test pools were found in Denmark, Fairgrove and Indianfields townships. The increase in the virus extends throughout the Midwest region including Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and now Michigan.

TCMA 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.