

PRESS RELEASE

West Nile Virus Increases to Eight Positives

August 20, 2025

On August 19th, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services confirmed three additional WNV positive test pools in Tuscola County. Also, in house lab testing confirmed one dead crow has tested positive as well. This brings the total to eight positive detections of the virus in the county at this time. Townships include: Denmark, Fairgrove, Indianfields and Elmwood. The increase in the virus extends throughout the Midwest region.

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 EPAapproved 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.

Larry Zapfe, Director
Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement