

Mosquito Management Program Update

Sharon Township Trustee Meeting September 6, 2017

Flood Water or Nuisance Mosquitoes

This spring through mid-summer was very wet. July rainfall was well above normal with flooding in many areas of the County. As a result of the frequent rain, this caused flood water species of mosquitoes to flourish in very high numbers by late July to early August. Keep in mind that many of these species do not carry diseases. As a result, our program shifted from disease transmission control to nuisance mosquito control for a period of time this summer. This response is outside of our program parameters and contract, but it is important that we respond. Our contractor, Vector Disease Control International (VDCI), did not charge for this additional service response.



West Nile Virus

Just as the flood water nuisance mosquito response started to wind down, we began to see West Nile virus in mosquitoes increase across the County. It is very typical to see this as the weather turns hotter and dryer, and the only water remaining is found in containers like tires, buckets, gutters, bird baths, unmaintained pools, plant saucers and rain barrels. The species of mosquito that carries West Nile virus likes to breed in containers with stagnant water.

West Nile Positive Traps	2017	2016	2015
Sharon North	1	0	3
Sharon South	3	3	4

Spray Location	Date	Reason
Sharon North	August 21, 2017	WNV+
Sharon South	July 20, 2017	High Trap Numbers

Looking Forward

FCPH and a workgroup made up of 7 jurisdictions have been working on planning the mosquito management program for the next 3-5 years. Areas of discussion have included:

- Increasing WNV testing and exploring a new testing platform
- Discussing the option of providing nuisance mosquito control as a separate cost
- Purchasing and cost-sharing lab equipment and mosquito program software
- Expanding the amounts of larviciding

After working on these areas for several months and still needing more time to evaluate, it was decided to recommend exercising a second, 1-year extension of our existing contract with VDCI. There will be no price increase for 2018. This allows us additional time to further explore these areas and issue a comprehensive RFP in early 2018. This also allows us to receive proposals and allow jurisdictions to have budget discussions and plan for cost of services.