

West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis Found in Jefferson Township Mosquito Pool

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During routine testing, the Morris County Division of Mosquito Control found two mosquito pools positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) and two mosquito pools positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Jefferson Township. All positive mosquito pools were detected in a limited area within Mahlon Dickerson Reservation.

The Division of Mosquito Control treating this area with synthetic pyrethroid insecticides that are recognized as an effective solution for mosquito control. The insecticide will be applied during early morning hours, and its residual is known to dissipate very quickly in the environment.

Residents are reminded to take precautions to reduce the risk of mosquito bites. Window and door screens should be repaired as necessary, and outdoor activities should be minimized at dawn, dusk and evening hours. Residents should wear long shirts and pants when outdoors and insect repellent may be sprayed on clothing and exposed skin in accordance with labeling instructions. Standing water should be eliminated in flowerpots, buckets, tires, pools, playground equipment, etc., and birdbaths should be emptied and refilled weekly.

Jefferson Township residents may call the Health Department at 973-208-6120 for more information regarding mosquito-borne diseases and mosquito control on one's property, or may consult the informational brochures available through the Township website. Residents should report mosquito problems and standing water to the Morris County Division of Mosquito Control at 973-285-6450. For information about the Division of Mosquito Control and its efforts to prevent mosquito activity in our community, please check the Division's website, which also includes updates regarding where and when mosquito spraying will take place:

www.morriscountynj.gov/mosquito/

For more information regarding West Nile Virus and mosquito control, please check the following websites:

www.cdc.gov/westnile/faq/genQuestions.html

www.morriscountynj.gov/mosquito/diseases/