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Press Release: September 19, 2023

Jennifer Muggeo
Director of Health
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Mosquitoes in Ledge Light Health District Test Positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today that mosquitoes collected in Stonington on September 11 have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV), and that mosquitoes collected in Ledyard on September 13 have tested positive for West Nile Virus. In all cases, the positive mosquito was *culiseta melanura*, which is known to primarily bite birds but has been known to bite mammals. Positive EE and WNV mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for community members to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Previously this summer, mosquitoes from North Stonington (8/21), Waterford (8/23) and Lyme (9/6) tested positive for WNV.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on West Nile virus and mosquito management can be found at
<http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

If you need assistance or advice treating standing water on your property, a member of our Environmental Health staff can help. An Environmental Technician will visit your property and provide education on how to prevent and eliminate mosquitoes. Contact Patti Myers at (860) 434-1605 ext. 214 for more information.

Press Release: September 27, 2023

Jennifer Muggeo, Director of Health, 860-448-4882 ext.1300 / jmuggeo@llhd.org

Mosquitoes in Ledge Light Health District Test Positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today that mosquitoes collected in East Lyme and from a collection station on the Waterford/New London line on September 14 have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV), and that mosquitoes collected in Ledyard on September 20 have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Previously this year, mosquitoes from Ledyard (9/13), Lyme (9/6), North Stonington (8/21), Stonington (9/11), and Waterford/New London (8/23) tested positive for WNV and from Stonington (9/11) for EEE. Additionally, Ledge Light Health District has become aware that mosquitoes from North Stonington (8/21) tested positive for Jamestown Canyon Virus (JCV). JCV isolates have appeared in Connecticut every year since 1997 and have been found in New London County before, although with much less frequency than WNV and EEE. Positive mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for community members to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on mosquito management and mosquito-borne diseases can be found on our website at: <https://llhd.org/healthy-communities/nurturing-healthy-environments/mosquito-borne-disease/>.

If you need assistance or advice treating standing water on your property, a member of our Environmental Health staff can help. An Environmental Technician will visit your property and provide education on how to prevent and eliminate mosquitoes. Contact Patti Myers at (860) 434-1605 ext. 214 for more information.

September 10, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Stephen Mansfield
Director of Health
860-448-4882 ext.1307
smansfield@llhd.org

Updated 9/10/19

Mosquitoes in Groton, Ledyard, North Stonington and Stonington Test Positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)

Ledge Light Health District announced today that mosquitoes trapped in **Groton and Ledyard** have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. This is in addition to the previously announced positive mosquitoes in North Stonington and Stonington. Some of the mosquito traps contained mosquito species that are known to bite humans.

EEE is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus that is transmitted by mosquitoes. Historically, the virus has been found in trapped mosquitoes in Connecticut, but only one person has died from EEE.

All residents of Groton, Ledyard, North Stonington and Stonington are advised to avoid outdoor activities from one hour before to one hour after dawn and dusk.

Additional precautions to avoid mosquito bites include:

- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting if sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home include:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire Swings, clogged gutters.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.
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Additional resources for information on EEE and mosquito management can be found at
<http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

August 11, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Stephen Mansfield
Director of Health
860-448-4882 ext.1307
smansfield@llhd.org

**Mosquitoes in Stonington
Test Positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus**

Ledge Light Health District announced today that mosquitoes trapped in Stonington have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus. The virus was found in *Culiseta melanura* species mosquitoes, which is a species that primarily bites birds.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis is a rare but serious disease caused by a virus that is transmitted by mosquitoes. In Connecticut, the virus has been found in trapped mosquitoes in most years. In 2019, there were four human cases of EEE in Connecticut.

Residents who live in towns or near towns where EEE virus has been found are advised to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites, including:

- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors for long periods of time, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing should be light colored and made of tightly woven materials that keep mosquitoes away from the skin.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors and to protect small babies when outdoors. Consider the use of mosquito repellents recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), such as ones containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, IR3535, or 2-undecanone, and apply according to directions, when it is necessary to be outdoors.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.
- Minimize time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home include:

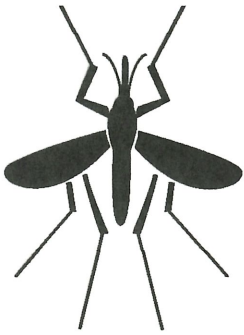
- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings, clogged gutters.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on EEE and mosquito management can be found at
<http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

2021 LLHD Mosquito Control Program

Ledge Light Health District is offering mosquito control consultation services and larvicidal mosquito dunks to residents in East Lyme, Groton, Ledyard, Lyme, Old Lyme, New London, North Stonington, Stonington, and Waterford.

Mosquito dunks are a larvicide designed to lessen the potential for West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and Zika Virus. They are safe for use around the home because they utilize a naturally occurring biological treatment to eliminate mosquitos before they become flying/feeding adults.



Now is the time to be proactive about mosquito control because they are just beginning to breed for the summer season. Breeding sites include standing water in wetland areas or yard depressions, clogged rain gutters, empty garden containers, used tire piles, pool covers and tree holes.

It is important to empty standing water on your property once a week to eliminate potential mosquito breeding. When standing water cannot be removed, using a larvicide will eliminate immature mosquitoes before they can mature into flying adults. Flying adults are much more difficult and costly to eliminate.

Ledge Light Health District will provide to residents or homeowners association, free of charge:

- 1. A site visit to assess standing water issues and make recommendations for eliminating mosquito breeding conditions**
- 2. An initial treatment with mosquito dunks***
- 3. A season-long supply of mosquito dunks, until our supply is eliminated.**

**Please note that the District will only provide larvicide dunks for standing water bodies less than 400 square feet. Application of the larvicide will be done by the homeowner.*

For more information:

Kara Hovland 860-448-4882 extension 1308 (East of Thames River); or

Patti Myers, 860-434-1605 extension 214 (West of Thames River)

Visit our website: www.llhd.org

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram

Connecticut Mosquito Management Program Website: www.ct.gov/mosquito

CT DEEP Pesticide Management Program or Pre-Notification Registry at 860-434-3369

Press Release

Stephen Mansfield
Director of Health, LLHD
860-448-4882 ext.1307
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Mosquitoes in Waterford Test Positive for West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today those mosquitoes collected in Waterford on July 20th have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The positive mosquito, *Culiseta melanura*, feeds primarily on birds. Positive WNV mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for residents to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on West Nile virus and mosquito management can be found at <http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

Ledge Light Health District has a supply of larvicidal briquettes that can be used to treat standing water on private property. This larvicide prevents mosquitoes from developing into adults. Residents of municipalities served by Ledge Light Health District may request treatment of standing water on their property by calling Kara Hovland at 860-448-4882, extension 1308 (East of Thames River); or Patti Myers, 860-434-1605 extension 214 (West of Thames River). A District Sanitarian will visit your property and apply the larvicide to the area of standing water. The treatment will last approximately 30 days.

Press Release

Jennifer Muggeo
Deputy Director/Acting Director of Health 9/9-9/19/21
860-448-4882 ext.1300
jmuggeo@llhd.org

Mosquitoes in North Stonington Test Positive for West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today those mosquitoes collected in North Stonington on August 31, 2021, have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The positive mosquito, *uranotaenia sapphirina*, feeds primarily on amphibians and invertebrates. Positive WNV mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for residents to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on West Nile virus and mosquito management can be found at
<http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

If you need assistance or advice treating standing water on your property, a member of our Environmental Health staff can help. An Environmental Technician will visit your property and provide education on how to prevent and eliminate mosquitoes. Contact Kara Allen at (860) 448-4882 ext. 1308 (towns East of the Thames River) or Patti Myers at (860) 434-1605 ext. 214 (towns West of the Thames River) for more information.

Press Release: September 15, 2021

Jennifer Muggeo

Deputy Director/Acting Director of Health 9/9-9/19/21

860-448-4882 ext.1300

jmuggeo@llhd.org

Mosquitoes in North Stonington Test Positive for West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today those mosquitoes collected in North Stonington on August 31, 2021, have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The positive mosquito, *psorophora ferox*, which is known to bite birds and mammals but is not considered a major vector for the transmission of WNV. Positive WNV mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for residents to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on West Nile virus and mosquito management can be found at
<http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

If you need assistance or advice treating standing water on your property, a member of our Environmental Health staff can help. An Environmental Technician will visit your property and provide education on how to prevent and eliminate mosquitoes. Contact Kara Allen at (860) 448-4882 ext. 1308 (towns East of the Thames River) or Patti Myers at (860) 434-1605 ext. 214 (towns West of the Thames River) for more information.

Press Release: October 5, 2021

Stephen Mansfield
Director of Health, LLHD
860-448-4882 ext.1307
smansfield@llhd.org

Mosquitoes in Waterford and Lyme Test Positive for West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today that mosquitoes collected in Waterford and Lyme have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The positive species collected in Waterford were a combination of mammal and bird biting mosquitoes, while the mosquitoes trapped in Lyme were bird biting only. Positive WNV mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for residents to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites include:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home include:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on West Nile virus and mosquito management can be found at
<http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

If you need assistance or advice treating standing water on your property, a member of our Environmental Health staff can help. An Environmental Technician will visit your property and provide education on how to prevent and eliminate mosquitoes. Contact Kara Allen at (860) 448-4882 ext. 1308 (East of the Thames River) or Patti Myers at (860) 434-1605 ext. 214 (West of the Thames River) for more information.

September 14, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jennifer Muggeo
Director of Health
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jmuggeo@llhd.org

Mosquitoes in Ledge Light Health District Test Positive for West Nile Virus

Ledge Light Health District announced today that mosquitoes collected in Lyme on September 6 have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). The positive mosquito, *Culex restuans*, which is known to bite birds and mammals. Previously this summer, mosquitoes from North Stonington (8/21) and Waterford (8/23) tested positive for WNV. Positive WNV mosquitoes are normally expected during the summer months, and their presence serves as a reminder for residents to take standard precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Precautions to avoid mosquito bites:

- Minimize time outdoors at dusk and dawn.
- Be sure door and window screens are tight fitting and in good repair.
- While outdoors, wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long-sleeved shirts. Clothing material should be tightly woven.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Consider using mosquito repellent when it is necessary to be outdoors and always use them according to label instructions. The most effective repellents contain DEET or Picaridin. Oil of lemon eucalyptus is also effective for brief periods of exposure.
- When using DEET, use the lowest concentration effective for the time spent outdoors (for example, 6% lasts approximately 2 hours and 20% for 4 hours) and wash treated skin when returning indoors. Do not apply under clothing, to wounds or irritated skin, the hands of children, or to infants less than 2 months.

Measures to reduce mosquitoes around the home:

- Dispose of water-holding containers, such as ceramic pots, used tires, and tire swings.
- Drill holes in the bottom of containers such as those used for recycling.
- Clean clogged roof gutters.
- Turn over objects that may trap water when not in use such as wading pools and wheelbarrows.
- Change water in bird baths on a weekly basis.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, and cover pools when not in use.
- Use landscaping to eliminate areas where water can collect on your property.

Additional resources for information on West Nile virus and mosquito management can be found at <http://www.ct.gov/mosquito/site/default.asp>

If you need assistance or advice treating standing water on your property, a member of our Environmental Health staff can help. An Environmental Technician will visit your property and provide education on how to prevent and eliminate mosquitoes. Contact Patti Myers at (860) 434-1605 ext. 214 for more information.