



MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT of HEALTH

Eric Faisst, Director of Public Health

Dr. John B. Endres, President of Board of Health

NEWS Release

For Release: September 3, 2015
Submitted: September 3, 2015
No. 23-15

Contact: Jennifer McGohan
Public Health Educator II
Madison County Dept. of Health
(315) 366-236

Madison County Reminds Residents to Continue Avoiding Mosquito Bites

Madison County Health Department announced today that both Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEEV) and West Nile virus (WNV) continue to be present in the environment. The Health Department emphasized the need for residents to continue taking personal protection measures to prevent mosquito bites and reduce mosquito breeding locations.

Geoffrey Snyder, Madison County Director of Environmental Health said, "After spraying to reduce mosquitoes in the woodland swamp areas in the Town of Sullivan on August 13, 2015, mosquito populations numbers trapped in that area decreased by more than 55%. Although mosquito numbers continue to decline, mosquito borne diseases remain a threat with continued detection of WNV and EEEV in mosquito pools collected in the weeks after spraying. Until the first hard frost, residents should continue to take steps to prevent mosquito bites."

To date this season, there has been a total of 10 positive EEEV mosquito pools and a total of three positive WNV mosquito pools. Nine of the EEEV positive pools and one of the WNV positive pools were collected prior to the aerial spraying event.

The Health Department reminds residents that mosquitoes are most active between dusk and dawn. Personal protection is advised during outdoor activities. Personal protection measures include wearing shoes, socks, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt when going outside. Applying a mosquito repellent containing DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, or IR3535 to prevent mosquito bites is very important. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for application.

The following are ways to help reduce places mosquitoes can breed:

- Throw away or turn over outdoor containers, pots, wheelbarrows or other items that hold water
- Place watertight lids on refuse containers, and drill drain holes in recycling containers kept outdoors
- Remove all tires from property
- Change water in bird baths frequently, recirculate water in small ponds and ornamental features or apply a mosquito larvacide product appropriate for such use
- Clean and maintain rain gutters



- Drain wading pools when not in use and water from pool covers, maintain and keep clean chlorinated swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.
- Use landscaping to eliminate low areas where standing water accumulates, keep lawns mowed and clear vegetation from edges of ponds.

For more information about personal protection measures contact the Madison County Health Department, Division of Environmental Health at 366-2526 or visit www.healthymadisoncounty.org.

###