



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State Reclamation & Mosquito Control Board
CENTRAL MASS. MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT
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Eastern Equine Encephalitis Continues to be Found in Area

On August 24, 2010 the Mass. Dept. of Public Health (MDPH) confirmed that a collection of mosquitoes from August 20, 2010 in the Bolton Flat area in Bolton tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). This is in addition to the EEE confirmed in a horse euthanized in Lancaster on August 18.

“EEE is a serious illness, and this confirmation tells us that the virus is present in mammal-biting mosquitoes in this area. Residents must do everything possible to avoid mosquito bites” said CMMCP Executive Director, Timothy Deschamps. “Please consider changing your outdoor plans to avoid peak mosquito activity times like dawn and dusk, or use repellents according to label directions if you are outside”.

The Central Mass. Mosquito Control Project has coordinated with member Boards of Health and has placed additional surveillance traps in Lancaster, Lunenburg and Leominster to determine population densities and species prevalence. Area-wide spraying has been done in Lancaster and will be performed again this week. The Mass. Dept. of Public Health has placed surveillance traps in the towns of Shirley, Bolton and Harvard, which are not part of the CMMCP service area.

Personal protection measures have an important role to play in monitoring for EEE and protecting yourself and your loved ones.

Avoid Mosquito Bites – Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours – The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning. Otherwise, take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Although it may be difficult to do when it's hot, wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Apply Insect Repellent When You Go Outdoors. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), or oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home – Drain Standing Water – Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or getting rid of items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change water in birdbaths frequently.

Install or Repair Screens – Some mosquitoes like to come indoors. Keep them outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

More information is available at: www.mass.gov/dph/wnv. Information about WNV and EEE is also available by calling the DPH Epidemiology Program at 617-983-6800.

For more information please call CMMCP at (508) 393-3055 or log on to our website at www.cmmcp.org.

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