

August has reported increased viral mosquito results for mosquito surveillance in Pennsylvania and Beaver County. Beaver County has now reported 6 positive mosquito samples for West Nile Virus. Control and additional surveillance were performed in response. We responded to 2 mosquito calls of concern from residents in August. In response, to help reduce the spread of West Nile Virus, and reduce mosquito populations around the county, 1 adult mosquito control event was performed by backpack application and 46 larval control events were performed at various locations throughout the county.

The sporadic rain events we experienced this past month has left intermittent standing water in different locations. We have seen increased larval presence in areas where water lays for longer periods of time. We encourage residents to check buckets, bird baths, and other containers that can breed mosquitoes and dump out any stagnant water.

We continue to see a rise in the presence of the Asian Tiger Mosquito in the county. We remind everyone to check around their properties for potential breeding areas. *Aedes albopictus*, the Asian Tiger mosquito prefers cryptic locations. They prefer dark protected areas where there is a lack of predation or disturbance. They are especially drawn to tires that hold water and other areas like pipes, holes, cisterns, etc. The Asian Tiger mosquito is attracted to artificial containers to breed, by dumping out and removing any standing water that may lay in containers, it eliminates breeding habitat. Also, with the increase of viral mosquito trapping, we encourage residents to wear EPA approved insect repellent while enjoying outdoor activities and wear long sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors for extended periods of time when mosquitoes are most active.

Please visit www.epa.gov/insect-repellents for more information on the repellent that is right for you.

This month, we have deployed approximately 68 gravid traps and 9 BG Sentinel traps and have collected over 6,649 adult mosquitoes.

Surveillance will continue throughout the season until October of this year.

Now is a great time to check around your home and make it less attractive to mosquitoes. Check gutters for standing water that may lay for longer periods of time after a rain event. Check screens and windows that may have tears or cracks that can let mosquitoes enter the home.

Any questions related to West Nile Virus or mosquito concerns, please contact us at the Beaver County Conservation District 724-378-1701 ext. 222