

Mosquito surveillance and control is continuing as West Nile Virus positive mosquito samples are increasing across the Pennsylvania. Beaver County has now reported 1 positive mosquito sample for West Nile Virus. Control and additional surveillance were performed in response. We have responded to 1 mosquito call of concern and 1 dead bird call of concern. To help reduce the spread of West Nile Virus and reduce adult mosquito population around the county, 4 adult mosquito control events were performed by backpack application at areas of concern.

Since BG Sentinel surveillance began in June, we have seen a rise in the presence of the Asian Tiger Mosquito in the county. We would like to 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, so by dumping out and removing any standing water that may lay in containers, it eliminates breeding habitat. In areas that cannot be dumped or drained, there are products available to treat the water and eliminate any mosquito larvae before they become adults. Products like mosquito dunks and granules with Bti can be purchased at home improvement and retail stores. Be sure to read the label and follow the instructions for proper product usage and placement.

This month, we have deployed approximately 79 gravid traps and 12 BG Sentinel traps and have collected over 9,500 adult mosquitoes.

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

Since it is in full swing, now is a good time to check around the 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 your home. Check rain barrels and other artificial containers that hold water for longer periods of time.

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