

September continued to report viral mosquito results for mosquito surveillance in Beaver County. Beaver County has now reported 11 positive mosquito samples for West Nile Virus. 5 positive mosquito samples for West Nile Virus reported in September. Additional surveillance and control were performed in response. We responded to 1 mosquito call of concern from residents in September. In response and to help reduce the spread of West Nile Virus, 1 adult mosquito control event was performed by backpack application and 26 larval control events were performed at various locations throughout the county.

September weather reported cooler night temperatures and lower daytime temperatures, which helped reduce some mosquito species breeding and activity. We saw a reduction of mosquitoes collected in gravid trapping. Although there is a decrease in mosquitoes in gravid trapping, the presence of West Nile Virus is still high, so continued vigilance in personal protection during outdoor activities and removing any standing water around properties is still important.

In September, we deployed approximately 72 gravid traps and 11 BG Sentinel traps and collected over 4,897 adult mosquitoes.

Surveillance for West Nile Virus and gravid trapping concluded for the season on September 30, 2022.

We will continue surveillance for *Aedes albopictus* (Asian Tiger mosquito) until the end of October. *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes are still active and we are finding increased numbers in urban areas. Autumn is the time of year that residents are cleaning yards and storing equipment and items for the winter so it is a great time to check properties for any areas that may hold standing water. Some areas to check are tarps and other items (and removing any puddled water), check gutters that may be clogged with leaves or debris which can hold water, check barrels or buckets that may hold water for longer periods of time. Also, check ornamental ponds and birdbaths that are not aerated and may lay stagnant for longer periods of time. *Aedes albopictus* will remain active until below freezing temperatures and may even be present then if they are in a protected or cryptic area.

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