



Greene County Public Health

Melissa Howell, MS, MBA, MPH, RN, REHS, Health Commissioner

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Mosquito Control Treatment Rescheduled in Bellbrook and Beavercreek After Heavy Rains Earlier This Month

GREENE COUNTY, OH – Due to heavy rains on August 20-21 this month, Greene County Public Health officials have rescheduled the mosquito control treatments for two areas of Greene County.

Why This Matters to You

West Nile virus is spread through the bites of infected mosquitoes and can cause illness ranging from mild symptoms to serious inflammation of the brain or spinal cord. While most people infected with West Nile virus do not develop serious illness, older adults and people with weakened immune systems or certain chronic health conditions are at greater risk for severe disease.

What We're Doing

Greene County Public Health's Environmental Health Services and Vector Control team is:

- Treating areas where West Nile virus-positive mosquitoes have been identified
- Checking for standing water and mosquito breeding sites
- Using mosquito traps and larvicide
- Monitoring mosquito populations
- Conducting mosquito control treatments as part of its Integrated Pest Management program

Areas to Be Treated

The Greene County Public Health Vector Control team will conduct mosquito control treatment on **Monday, August 31, from 9:00 p.m. through Tuesday, September 1, at 7:00 a.m.**

West Nile virus-positive mosquitoes were identified at **Sackett Wright Park in Bellbrook** and **Phillips Park in Beavercreek**.

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The following locations are scheduled for treatment:

Bellbrook

- Sackett Wright Park

Beavercreek

- Rotary Park
- Phillips Park
- Angels Pass
- Ankeney Soccer Complex

The additional locations in Beavercreek are being included because they were not treated during the previously scheduled August 20–21 treatment period due to heavy rainfall.

All treatment is weather-dependent and will occur only when conditions are appropriate, including calm winds and no rain.

The Vector Control team will investigate areas prior to treatment and may treat mosquito breeding locations that are identified using a granular larvicide as part of Greene County Public Health's Integrated Pest Management procedures.

What Is West Nile Virus and What Are the Symptoms?

West Nile virus is the most common mosquito-borne disease in the United States. People most often become infected through the bite of a mosquito carrying the virus. Most cases occur during mosquito season, which generally runs from late spring through fall.

There is no vaccine or specific medicine to prevent or treat West Nile virus infection in people. Symptoms can range from mild to severe.

Mild symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Body aches
- Fatigue

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- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Rash, usually on the trunk or back

Severe symptoms may include:

- High fever, generally over 102°F
- Confusion
- Disorientation
- Seizures
- Paralysis
- Coma
- Tremors
- Muscle weakness

Most people infected with West Nile virus do not develop symptoms. When symptoms do occur, they typically appear **3 to 15 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.**

What You Can Do

Environmental Health Services Director Shadrick Adams reminds residents that everyone can help reduce mosquito populations and protect themselves from mosquito bites.

Dump standing water. Check your property regularly and empty or remove water from:

- Old tires, containers and buckets
- Clogged gutters and downspouts
- Bird baths, toys, pet bowls and plant saucers
- Ditches, trash containers and other areas where water collects
- Boats and boat covers

Maintain water features, including swimming pools.

- Keep ponds and fountains moving with pumps or mosquito-eating fish
- Cover pools and spas when they are not in use

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Use mosquito repellents.

- Use an insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin or IR3535 and follow all label directions
- Outdoor fans can help deter mosquitoes from landing on you
- Certain plants and candles may help reduce mosquitoes in outdoor areas, but should not replace EPA-registered insect repellent

Protect yourself.

- Wear lightweight, light-colored long sleeves and pants when outdoors, especially around dawn and dusk
- Use insect repellent according to label directions
- Avoid shaded areas where mosquitoes may be resting

Residents are also asked to **avoid following directly behind mosquito treatment vehicles whenever possible and maintain a clearance of at least 200 feet behind the vehicle.** If following the vehicle is unavoidable, close vehicle windows and set the air conditioning to maximum or the recirculate setting to help minimize exposure.

Residents who have questions about the treatment, do not want the area around their home treated, or have concerns about mosquito activity can contact Greene County Public Health at **937-374-5661** or email vectors@greenecophoh.gov.

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