FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mosquito Treatment Scheduled for July 27 in West End Neighborhoods

PITTSBURGH – Recent samples of mosquitoes collected in Pittsburgh’s West End tested positive for West Nile virus.

In response, the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) will treat the West End neighborhood with a mosquito pesticide called Zenivex E20 that is not harmful to humans or pets. Crews will use a truck-mounted, Ultra Low Volume (ULV) sprayer on Tuesday, July 27, from 8 PM to 10 PM to lower the local mosquito population and minimize the risk of human transmission. In the event of rain, the spraying will take place the following day, Wednesday, July 28, during the same hours.

ACHD officials urge the public to protect themselves from mosquitoes by getting rid of standing water in yards, making sure that open windows and doors have screens, and using insect repellent on exposed skin, especially at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active. When used as directed, insect repellent is the best way to protect yourself from mosquito bites.

Complaints regarding properties with stagnant water can be reported here.

According to the CDC, between 70 and 80 percent of people that become infected with West Nile virus do not develop symptoms and are not impacted. Approximately 20 percent who become infected will develop a fever with other symptoms such as headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash. Most people with these symptoms will recover completely and can recover on their own. Less than 1 percent of people infected with the virus will develop severe symptoms of neurologic illness caused by inflammation of the brain or surrounding tissues. Anyone who believes they or someone they know has West Nile virus should consult a healthcare provider for evaluation and diagnosis.

There have been no reported human cases of West Nile virus in Allegheny County since 2018.

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