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**CONTACT: SUE JACOZZI, 203-452-5195**

**West Nile Virus Confirmed in a Pool of Mosquitoes in Trumbull  
TMHD Reminds Residents to Follow Personal Protect Measures to Protect Themselves**

The State Mosquito Management Program confirmed that mosquitoes trapped in Trumbull on August 1<sup>st</sup> have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). These are the first positive mosquitoes in town identified by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) this year. The Trumbull Monroe Health District (TMHD) encourages residents to take personal and homeowner precautions to limit their exposure to mosquitoes, particularly in the hours around dusk and dawn.

“The identification of mosquitoes carrying WNV is no surprise,” said Patrice Sulik, TMHD Director of Health. “We expect to continue to see positive mosquitoes throughout the state over the next few months. Vigilance in removing standing water on residential and town-owned property can decrease one’s chances of contracting WNV.”

To prevent WNV:

- Limit outdoor activities from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear clothing that minimizes bare skin.
- Use mosquito repellents on clothing.
- Follow the directions on labels for insecticides or repellents.
- Cover arms and legs of children playing near standing water.

- Cover playpens or carriages with mosquito netting.
- Remove objects that can hold standing water such as tin cans, tires, buckets, or bottles.
- Fill in holes, ditches, or tree trunks with sand or cement.
- Clean house gutters on a regular basis.
- Empty wading pools and bird baths every 4-7 days.
- Chlorinate swimming pools regularly.
- Eliminate collected water on boat and pool covers.
- Avoid over-watering of lawns.
- Fix holes in screens and attach properly to windows.

West Nile virus can cause a range of symptoms, from very mild to severe. The elderly and those with compromised immune systems are most at risk. Residents are urged to avoid outdoor activities between dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active. Insect repellent can be used when outdoors in mosquito infected areas.

“The best personal protection measures are ones people take themselves, staying indoors when mosquitoes are most active, and covering up or using insect repellent when outdoors,” said Sulik.

In 2011, WNV positive mosquitoes have been trapped in sixteen towns including: Bridgeport, Danbury, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hamden, Litchfield, New Britain, New Canaan, Orange, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Westport, and Woodbridge. No Connecticut residents have been identified with illnesses related to WNV infections this year. In 2010, WNV positive mosquitoes were trapped in 24 towns with 11 reported human cases.

Available at TMHD are larvicide briquettes and mosquito control information. The bacterial larvicide is called BTI, which is used for mosquito larval control in a broad range of fresh and salt marsh habitats. It uses a naturally-occurring bacteria, and provides thirty days of protection. Briquettes can be purchased at TMHD, 2 Corporate Drive, Suite 116, Trumbull, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Briquettes are \$1.00 each. They can also be purchased at your local hardware stores. For more information contact the TMHD at 203-452-5195.

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The mission of the Trumbull Monroe Health District is to protect the health of residents, and to prevent disease. For more information on the Trumbull Monroe Health District call 452-5195, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. or visit [www.tmhd.org](http://www.tmhd.org).