

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Arbovirus Weekly Report

Week of July 21, 2014

For additional information regarding this report,
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Background information on West Nile virus (WNV) and eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) virus and the Department of Public Health's current surveillance and response activities is available through www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito.

Additionally, please find new videos regarding mosquitoes and ticks and how best to protect yourself. Please feel free to share these resources with your constituents:
www.mass.gov/MosquitoesAndTicks.

	Season Total	Total Positive
Number of Mosquito Samples Tested	1449	WNV – 3 EEE – 4
Number of Animals Tested	1	WNV – 0 EEE – 0
Number of People Tested	72	WNV – 0 EEE – 0

Key Talking Points for the public for the week of July 21, 2014:

1. Populations of *Culiseta melanura*, a mosquito species of concern for EEE are low but increasing. Populations of *Coquillettidia perturbans*, another mosquito species of concern, are higher than average. EEE has now been identified in mosquitoes at one historic trap site. Additional trapping and testing is being done to monitor the situation closely.
2. WNV has been detected in Massachusetts this season. Virus levels increase throughout the season so now is the time to start practicing personal protection (use repellents and wear long-sleeved loose clothing when outdoors, dusk to dawn, the peak activity hours for mosquito species of concern).
3. To help prevent West Nile virus, it is particularly important to dump water from items that accumulate it at least twice per week can help reduce populations of these mosquitoes in your area.

EEE/WNV Risk Levels

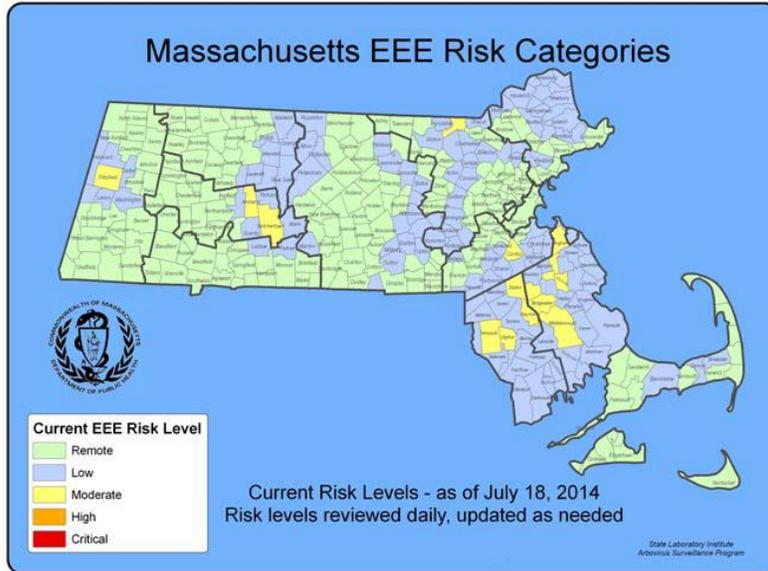
Key to Color Coding on EEE Risk Map		
Risk	What it Means	What You Can Do
Remote 	EEE is not usually found in your area	TO Prepare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know your risk – check regularly at www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito Repair screens
Low 	EEE may occur in your area	TO Prevent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear mosquito repellent between dusk to dawn Wear long sleeves and long pants from dusk to dawn Use mosquito netting on baby carriages and playpens
Moderate 	EEE occurred in your area within the last year AND/OR there is EEE in mosquitoes in your area now	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear mosquito repellent when outdoors, especially between dusk and dawn Avoid outside areas with obvious mosquito activity
High 	Conditions likely to lead to infection of a person with EEE are occurring in your area	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjust outdoor activity to avoid peak mosquito hours (from dusk to dawn) Avoid overnight camping, particularly near freshwater swamps where EEE activity is most likely
Critical 	Excessive risk from EEE virus exists, a person with EEE infection has been identified in your area	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancel or reschedule outdoor gatherings, organized sporting events, etc. to avoid peak mosquito hours (dusk to dawn)

Key to Color Coding on WNV Risk Map		
Risk	What it Means	What You Can Do
Low 	Infection with WNV is unlikely	TO Prepare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know your risk – check regularly at www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito Repair screens Cleanup to get rid of mosquito breeding sites Be aware of stagnant water on private property (e.g. unused swimming pools) and consult the local board of health. TO Prevent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear mosquito repellent between dusk to dawn Wear long sleeves and long pants from dusk to dawn Use mosquito netting on baby carriages and playpens
Moderate 	People with WNV infection have been found in your area	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear mosquito repellent Wear long sleeves and long pants when weather permits Use mosquito netting on baby carriages and playpens Dump standing water twice weekly
High 	More people may get infected with WNV in your area	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People over 50 or those who are immune compromised should adjust outdoor activity to avoid peak mosquito hours (from dusk to dawn)
Critical 	Unusually high risk from WNV exists	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Situation specific recommendations will be made

EEE Summary by County

As of: 07/21/2014

Note: Municipalities start the season at remote, low or moderate risk depending upon historical EEE activity:

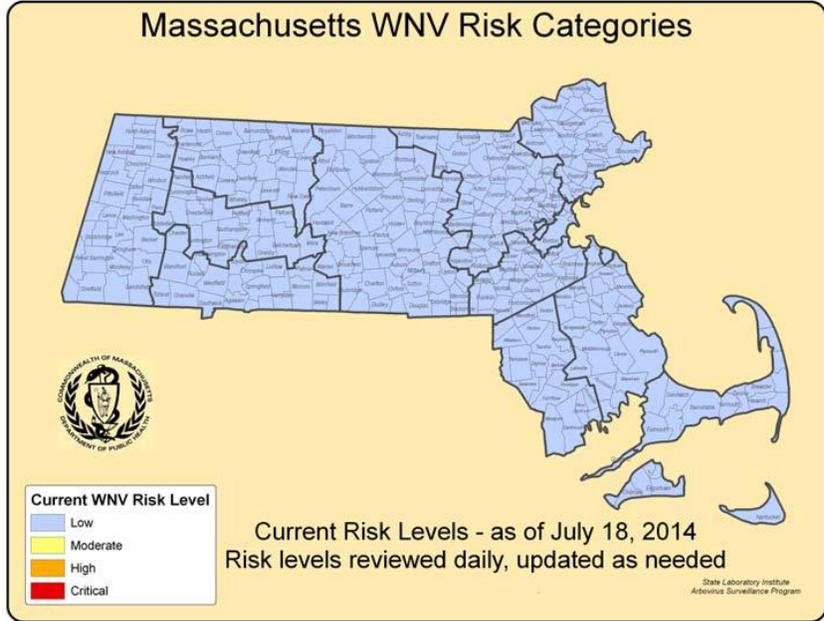


County	Towns at Critical risk	Towns at High risk	Human Cases	Animal Cases
Barnstable			0	0
Berkshire			0	0
Bristol			0	0
Dukes			0	0
Essex			0	0
Franklin			0	0
Hampden			0	0
Hampshire			0	0
Middlesex			0	0
Nantucket			0	0
Norfolk			0	0
Plymouth			0	0
Suffolk			0	0
Worcester			0	0

WNV Summary by County

As of: 07/21/2014

Note: All municipalities start the season at low risk for WNV:



County	Towns at Critical risk	Towns at High risk	Human Cases	Animal Cases
Barnstable			0	0
Berkshire			0	0
Bristol			0	0
Dukes			0	0
Essex			0	0
Franklin			0	0
Hampden			0	0
Hampshire			0	0
Middlesex			0	0
Nantucket			0	0
Norfolk			0	0
Plymouth			0	0
Suffolk			0	0
Worcester			0	0

Below are important steps families and individuals can take in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes:

Avoid Mosquito Bites

- Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8- diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under 2 months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under 3 years of age.
- Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning.
- Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

- Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change water in birdbaths frequently.
- Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

More information is available on the DPH website:

www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito. Information about WNV and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) is also available by calling the Epidemiology Program at 617-983-6800.

Also, please find new videos regarding mosquitoes and ticks and how best to protect yourself to share with your constituents: www.mass.gov/MosquitoesAndTicks.