

Public Health Points

York City Bureau of Health

Volume 27, Issue 10

Phone: 717-849-2252 Fax: 717-852-9397

www.yorkcity.org

April 2012

County-wide Mosquito Surveillance Starting in York County for 2012

York County West Nile Virus Program is starting county-wide mosquito surveillance for the 2012 season. During the 2011 season, adult mosquito trapping in York County collected over 90,000 adult mosquitoes and included twenty-seven different species. This is the highest number of mosquitoes ever collected in a season in York County.

In 2011, York County also had the highest number of samples testing positive in Pennsylvania for the detection of West Nile Virus in mosquito populations. The most common sources of high mosquito populations continue to be from trash and yard clutter. Residents, businesses and municipalities can greatly reduce mosquito concerns and health risk by cleaning up their own property and local community.

Eleven years of surveillance in York County indicates that the most common mosquito species in residential areas - the House Mosquito (*Culex* spp.) and Asian Tiger Mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) - breed predominately in artificial containers created by humans. Artificial containers can be something small like a bottle cap to sometimes as large as a swimming pool with shallow water. Additional containers such as tires, buckets, tarps and roadside trash are preferred by mosquitoes because other predators found in nature that would eat mosquito larvae are not present. During a drought these containers continue to hold water and breed mosquitoes. One bucket or tire in someone's backyard can produce hundreds of mosquitoes a year.

Residents, municipalities and police departments should also be aware that mosquito traps are not to be confused for explosive devises. Traps are routinely placed throughout York County from April through October to monitor mosquito populations. Traps are clearly labeled with contact information.

To report mosquito concerns York County residents can contact the Penn State Cooperative Extension - York County West Nile Virus Program office by calling (717) 840-2375. Additional information can be found on our website at: <http://extension.psu.edu/york>.

For information about West Nile Virus symptoms in humans, contact the Department of Health at 1-877-PA-HEALTH, or visit the Pennsylvania West Nile Virus website at: www.westnile.state.pa.us.

Reportable Conditions – 2012 City of York, Pa

Reported Cases	Mar.	Total
Animal Bites	13	24
Campylobacter Enteritis	1	2
Chlamydia	38	126
Cryptosporidiosis	0	1
Gonorrhea	31	73
Hepatitis B	0	1
Hepatitis C	9	31
HIV Infection	1	5
Influenza, Type B	2	3
Lead Poisoning	0	8
Lyme Disease	0	1
Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection	11	33
Salmonellosis	0	1
Syphilis – Primary/Secondary	0	1
Total Case Reports	106	310

EAT PLAY BREATHE YORK



Creating Healthy Communities... that is the movement across the nation, bringing neighborhoods, schools, faith and work institutions together to become places where the healthy choices are easier choices. In 2010, the YMCA of York and York County was awarded an ACHIEVE grant (Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and EnVironmental changeE). York is one of over 150 ACHIEVE communities in the nation charged to create sustainable policies and environmental changes that improve health by increasing physical activity, improving access to nutritious foods, and to reduce tobacco use and exposure.

Eat Play Breathe York, our local initiative, is working with schools, businesses, community organizations, and health care organizations to develop a comprehensive approach to policy and environmental changes to sustain a healthier York. A community action plan laid the framework to guide our strategies for physical activity opportunities, food policy and access, and implementing comprehensive tobacco policies.

This year, the Y-USA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention chose York's ***Eat Play Breathe York*** initiative to mentor a new ACHIEVE community in Booneville, Missouri. Cori Strathmeyer, Wellness and Activate America Coordinator for the YMCA of York and York County, and Barbara Kovacs, Director of the York City Bureau of Health, will assist the Missouri team to assess their community needs, develop a community action plan and provide technical assistance for their team in creating a healthier community. The Missouri team is excited to work with York in changing their community.

Exciting things are being done and are yet to come in York as we bring about change to create a healthier York. Check out the new ***Eat Play Breathe York*** website is www.eatplaybreatheyork.org or www.epby.org

YORK CITY BUREAU OF HEALTH

227 W. MARKET ST.

YORK, PA 17401

Mayor

C. Kim Bracey

Director of Economic & Community Development

Kevin Schrieber

Deputy Director

Community Development - Health

Barbara Kovacs, MPA

Board of Health

Charles Reilly, MD, Chairman

Carmen Bones

JoAnn Henderson

Robert Simpson

Rita Van Wyk, MD

Newsletter Editors

David L. Hawk, MD, MPH

Barbara H. Kovacs, MPA