



Press Release

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Carroll County General Health District

West Nile Virus in Carroll County

The Carroll County General Health District (CCGHD) has received 2 confirmed cases of West Nile virus for 2023. The two confirmed West Nile Virus cases were found in mosquitoes from Carroll County: one case in Monroe Township and one case in Union Township. The West Nile Virus is carried by mosquitoes but can be spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito.

During the summer and fall months the CCGHD conducts mosquito surveillance to test to see if there is the presence of West Nile Virus in the Carroll County Community. The mosquito surveillance program tests mosquito samples from many locations across Carroll County. The two confirmed cases of West Nile Virus were identified through this surveillance program.

When someone is infected with the West Nile Virus, they can experience symptoms for a few days to several weeks. The symptoms of West Nile Virus include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Body aches
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Swollen lymph glands
- Rash on the chest, stomach, or back

Around 1 in 150 individuals infected with West Nile Virus can develop a severe illness. The symptoms of severe illness can include headache, high fever, disorientation, vision loss, numbness, neck, stiffness, and paralysis.

Some steps you can take to reduce the risk of West Nile Virus infection include:

- Limiting the time spent outside during the early morning and late evening hours, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wearing insect repellent.
- Wearing long-sleeved shirts and pants.
- Removing stagnant water on your property.
- Changing your pet's water dish every day.
- Keeping your pool clean.
- Cleaning out your gutters.
- Keeping windows and screens in good condition.

For more information regarding vector-borne diseases visit the Ohio Department of Health website at:
<https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/zoonotic-disease-program/diseases/west-nile-virus>

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