WEST NILE VIRUS FOUND IN STONEHAM MOSQUITO SAMPLE

Residents urged to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites

DATE: August 19, 2022
CONTACT: Maureen Lee, Interim Health Agent

On August 10, 2022, the Health Department received notification from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health of a West Nile Virus (WNV) positive Mosquito, The Massachusetts Department of Public Health conducts routine surveillance.

West Nile Virus has been endemic to Massachusetts for almost twenty years, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has advised that areas of Massachusetts are at increased risk for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) as well.

The Health Department wishes to remind all residents to follow these rules which will help protect you and your family from illness:

- Remain inside from dusk until dawn as mosquitoes are most active at these times.
- Dress in long sleeves and pants when you're able to reduce the chances of mosquito bites.
- Use mosquito repellent which contains DEET, as this is most effective.
- Examine your yard for standing water; check flower pots, and clogged rain gutters, as these are mosquito breeding sites.

For more information, please visit https://www.mass.gov/mosquito-borne-diseases or contact Maureen Lee, Interim Health Agent at 781-279-2612.