



St. Lawrence County Public Health Department

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First Report of West Nile Virus Found in SLCPHD Mosquito Surveillance

Canton, NY — The St. Lawrence County Public Health Department's ongoing mosquito surveillance has detected a mosquito sample testing positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) near the Upper and Lower Lakes in the village of Canton. Routine mosquito sampling is conducted at various locations throughout the county and tested at the State's laboratory.

To avoid mosquito bites, take precautions during their peak activity hours from dusk until dawn. Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, socks, and shoes. Use mosquito repellent containing DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, or IR3535. Do not apply repellent directly to children; instead, apply it to your own hands and then rub it onto your child. Avoid applying to your face and wash your skin and clothing thoroughly after coming indoors.

To avoid mosquito breeding near your property, the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department advises taking the following measures: ensure your roof gutters drain correctly and clean clogged gutters in the spring and fall. Remove or turn over any items that may hold stagnant water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers, to prevent mosquitoes from breeding. Clear vegetation and waste from the edge of ponds.

For more information on WNV, please call the St. Lawrence County Public Health Department at 315-386-2325 or visit:

New York State Department of Health's website:

https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/west_nile_virus/

Center for Disease Control website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/west-nile-virus/index.html>

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