

October 2025



MOSQUITO SEASON SUMMARY

BLAIR COUNTY MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM



Program Goals

Vector Management

The Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Program aims to reduce the transmission of West Nile Virus (WNV) by establishing a mosquito monitoring and collection program. The program is comprised of two parts, surveillance and control. Mosquitoes are collected from April to October and are sent to PA DEP for identification and virus testing. Based on larval and adult surveillance data, we are able to decide if control is needed. The program runs off the idea of Integrated Pest Management, which incorporates public education, surveillance, preventative practices, and the use of physical, biological, and chemical control applications. This report contains Blair County's 2025 season summary for mosquito surveillance, testing, and control.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

REDUCE STANDING &
STAGNANT WATER

KEEP GRASS CUT SHORT

FILL IN LOW LYING AREAS

EMPTY ARTIFICIAL
CONTAINERS AND TIRES

Mosquito Surveillance

SITE LOCATIONS AND TEST RESULTS

From May to September, sites within Blair County were surveyed for adult and immature mosquitoes. Any adult mosquitoes collected were sent to Harrisburg to be tested for pathogens. Sites were located throughout the county, with most traps being placed in Altoona, Hollidaysburg, Bellwood, Duncansville, Roaring Spring, and Martinsburg. Sites were chosen in areas that historically produce mosquitoes and have standing water, artificial containers, floodwater, or sewage treatment plants located near them. Mosquito trapping was prioritized in areas with a higher human population, higher foot traffic areas like recreational parks, and complaint sites.

This season, there were a total of 513 mosquito related samples collected. Of those, 332 samples were collected from gravid traps, 52 samples were collected from host-seeking traps, and 129 samples were collected from larval dipping. From the adult samples collected, there were 156 mosquito pools generated for testing, resulting in 11 positive West Nile Virus samples. The first positive mosquito pool was reported in June from Huston Township. There was one positive mosquito pool reported in July from Altoona City. There were 7 positive mosquito pools reported in August from within Altoona City and Hollidaysburg Borough, and two positive mosquito pools were reported in September from Woodbury Township. There was one confirmed human case of West Nile Virus in Blair County.



Mosquito Prevention and Control

Program Efforts



Mosquitoes breed in standing water and mosquito larvae need water to survive. When vector management staff find mosquito larvae or pupae, our first step is to eliminate the water wherever possible. If the water cannot be eliminated, we will treat the water with a larval control product, preventing the larvae from turning into adults. In 2025, there were 30 larval control events within Blair County and countless buckets and tires overturned.

There were 13 mosquito-related complaints received in 2025 for Blair County. For received complaints, surveillance was conducted, outreach and education were provided, and adult control events were conducted if warranted. There were 5 adult control events conducted in 2025, with one of those being a large-scale truck-mounted ULV spray event that took place within Hollidaysburg Borough and Blair Township.

STAY UP TO DATE!

The latest information on mosquitoes and West Nile Virus can be found on PA DEP's website. For more information about our program, scan the QR code below!

