BOARD OF HEALTH 9/7/2023

Mike Totoraitis, PhD Commissioner of Health



CURRENT PRIORITIES



PRIORITIES OVERVIEW

- Accreditation
- RNC planning
- Performance management
- Community Health Improvement Plan (MKE Elevate)

- Office of Violence Prevention
 transition
- Board vacancies
- Substance Use Disorder Strategic Plan
- Among others...

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



WEST NILE VIRUS



WEST NILE VIRUS

- Wisconsin has been monitoring the spread of WNV since 2001
- Average number of WNV human cases during 2002 through 2022 in Wisconsin is 17 cases per year





Figure 1. Average number of *Culex pipiens/restuans* per trap night. MKE=City of Milwaukee, NS=North Shore, LaF=Lafayette County.

Source: West Nile Virus | Wisconsin Department of Health Services

WEST NILE VIRUS Symptoms

- Symptoms usually occur 3 to 14 days after a West Nile virus infected mosquito bites a person
- Mild symptoms of fever, headache, fatigue, muscle aches, and photophobia
- Severe symptoms for older adults and people with compromised immune systems (transplant recipients) are at an increased risk of severe disease from the virus (encephalitis, meningitis, paralysis, coma, death).
- There is no specific medication for WNV; physicians may give supportive treatment to patients to treat symptoms. Once a person is infected with WNV, they are immune for life.
- If you think you have WNV, contact your physician



Source: West Nile Virus | Wisconsin Department of Health Services

WEST NILE VIRUS

PREVENTION

- Use insect repellents (follow label instructions). Effective chemical products include DEET and Picaridin; effective natural products include Oil of lemon eucalyptus and IR3535. Permethrin is also an effective way to prevent bites and is available for the treatment of clothing prior to being worn. All these products can be found in your local drug or outdoor stores.
- For more information on repellent use, go to
 - DHS Fight the Bite website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/fight-bite/index.htm
 - CDC WNV website: https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/faq/repellent.html
- Wear loose-fitting long sleeves and pants to keep mosquitoes away from your skin.
- Avoid being outdoors during dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Since the types of mosquitos that transmit WNV thrive in stagnant water, it is important to remove breeding sites such as pots, buckets, old tires, or any other containers that can retain water, empty and refill bird baths and water bowls for pets at least every 3 days, and clean clogged gutters so they can easily drain.
- Make sure window and door screens don't have any holes that mosquitoes can pass through.



Source: West Nile Virus | Wisconsin Department of Health Services



COVID-19 GENOMIC SURVEILLANCE







Source: CDC COVID Data Tracker: Variant Proportions

WASTEWATER





Source: <u>COVID-19</u>: Wisconsin Coronavirus Wastewater Monitoring Network | <u>Wisconsin Department of Health Services</u>



PROPORTION

Select a city:

Milwaukee (Jones Island)

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Source:<u>SARS-CoV-2 Wastewater Genomic Dashboard</u> (wisc.edu)

WISCONSIN HOSPITALIZATIONS



CITY OF MILWAUKEE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Source: COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations | CDC

MILWAUKEE COUNTY HOSPITALIZATIONS



VACCINATIONS

- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meets on September 12th
- MHD is anticipating COVID/flu vaccination campaign to begin the last week in September. Flu vaccine will be available for anyone 6 months and older regardless of insurance status
- COVID vaccine will be available for eligible individuals:
 - Children 18 years or younger: uninsured or enrolled in Medicaid
 - Adults: uninsured or underinsured
- Individuals with private insurance should be able to get vaccinated through their health system or pharmacy at no cost
- Mobile sites and drive-through clinics which will be announced soon



QUESTIONS?

