



Village Hall

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www.skokie.org

SkokieVision Municipal Cable

1660 AM Skokie

Council-Manager Government

Mayor	George Van Dusen
Clerk	Marlene Williams
Trustees	Michele L. Bromberg Michael M. Lorge Donald P. Perille Randall E. Roberts Pramod C. Shah Edie Sue Sutker
Manager	Albert J. Rigoni
Counsel	J. Patrick Hanley

Awards and Distinctions

All America City Finalist

American Public Works Association
(APWA) Accreditation

Commission on Accreditation for
Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)

Commission on Fire Accreditation
International (CFAI)

Fitch IBCA AAA Financial
Bond Rating

Governor's Hometown Award

Government Finance Officers
Association Budget Award

Government Finance Officers
Association Certificate of
Achievement for Excellence in
Financial Reporting

Insurance Services Office (ISO) Class
One Fire Department

State of Illinois Certified Health
Department

Tree City U.S.A. Distinction

Gold Level Clean Air Counts
Community

Village of Skokie

July 27, 2010

For Immediate Release

Village of Skokie Health Department Reports a Positive Testing for West Nile Virus

The Skokie Health Department works diligently each summer to monitor mosquito activity in the Village in order to eliminate potential mosquito breeding sites. By doing so, this lowers the risk of West Nile Virus (WNV).

Three mosquito pools have tested positive for WNV in Skokie. However, no human cases of WNV have been reported in Skokie in 2010.

Prevention is key to minimize the risk of mosquito-borne disease in our community. Property owners can eliminate mosquito breeding areas in the following manner:

- Remove standing water where mosquitoes can breed.
- Clean and maintain any catch basins that may be on the property. The North Shore Mosquito Abatement District will treat your catch basin for mosquito larvae. For more information, please call them directly at 847/446-9434.
- Change the water in birdbaths and plant pots at least once a week.
- Empty plastic pools at the end of each day and store indoors.
- Keep grass and shrubbery cut short. Adult mosquitoes accumulate in cool, shady areas.
- Keep gutters clean and free-flowing. Eliminate dips and low areas that collect water.
- Don't let water stand on flat roofs.

Most people infected with the virus will often show no symptoms or mild symptoms including fever, headache, body aches, skin rash and swollen lymph nodes. Severe infections can include headache, high fever, stiff neck, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and rarely death. Symptoms generally occur three to 14 days following the bite of an infected mosquito. Anyone can get WNV, however, people over 50 years old or individuals with a weakened immune system have the highest risk of developing severe illness. If you experience any of these symptoms you should contact your personal physician.

Residents can reduce their risk of becoming infected by avoiding mosquito bites. Measures you can take to reduce your risk of being bitten include: staying indoors at dawn, dusk or early evening; wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors; spraying clothes with repellants and wearing protective clothing if spending time in a heavily wooded area; and, applying insect repellents containing DEET very sparingly on exposed skin.

If you find a dead bird it is important to contact the Skokie Health Department to collect the bird for testing. Historically, some birds have tested positive for WNV, and results from testing help to determine the extent of WNV activity. To report a dead bird, please call the Health Department 847/933-8484.

For more information on WNV or to report potential mosquito breeding sites, please contact the Skokie Health Department at 847/933-8484 or the North Shore Mosquito Abatement District at 847/446-9434.

The Skokie Health Department is only one of eight state-certified municipal health departments in Illinois and provides a wide range of services to Skokie residents. To learn more about the Skokie Health Department, please visit www.skokie.org or call 847/933-8252.

Released by
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