



Village Hall

5127 Oakton Street
Skokie, Illinois 60077

Phone (847) 673-0500
Fax (847) 673-0525

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

June 30, 2011

For Immediate Release

Village of Skokie Health Department Reminds Residents of Mosquitoes and West Nile Virus

The Skokie Health Department wishes to alert residents that mosquitoes positive for West Nile Virus have been identified in nearby communities. Humans are infected with West Nile Virus by mosquitoes, and the Health Department urges residents to take precautions to prevent 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.

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 have few 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.

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 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 one of only 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
Public Information Division
Janelle Silva
847/933-8257