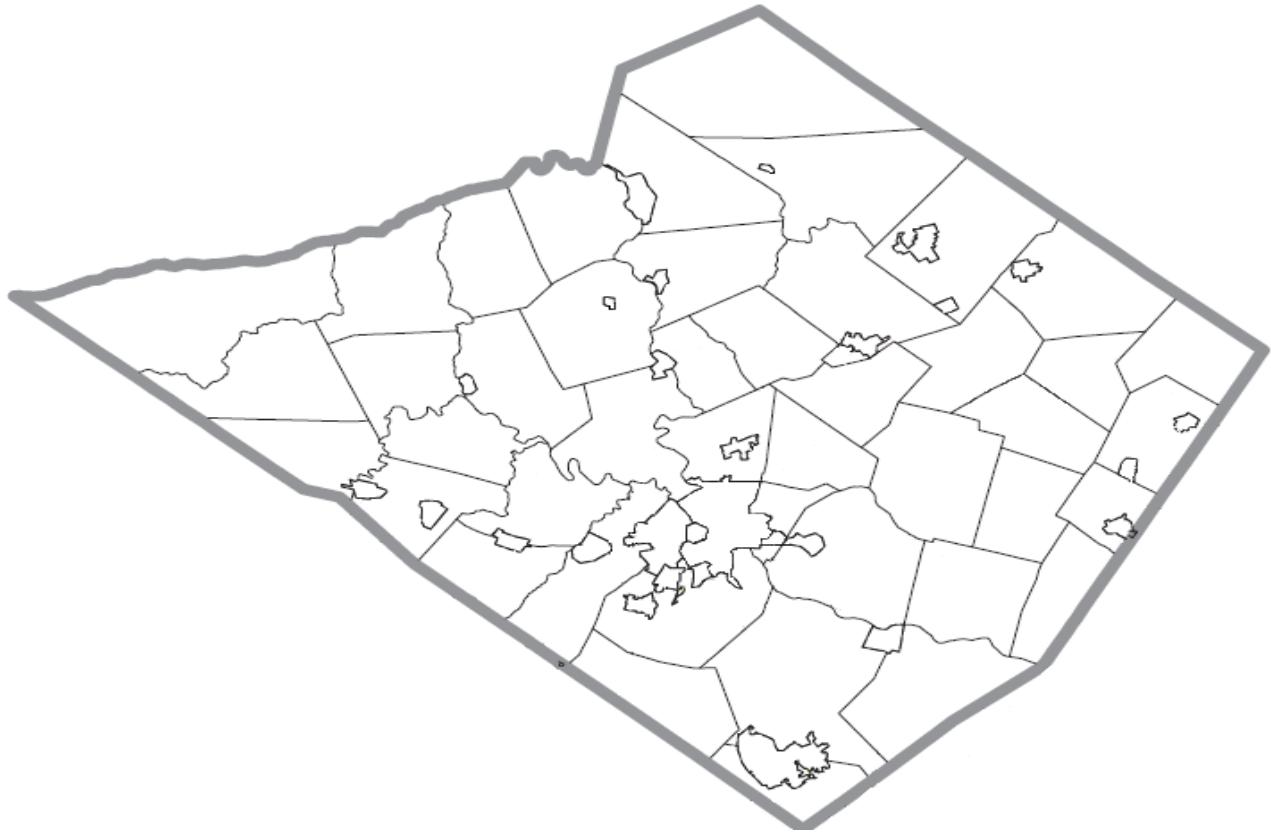




Mosquito Surveillance and Virus Updates from 4/3-4/14

Berks County Conservation District West Nile Virus Program



Areas Surveyed:

- Reading City
- Wyomissing Borough
- Muhlenburg Township
- Spring Township
- Shillington Borough
- Kenhorst Borough
- Exeter Township
- Cumru Township
- Lyons Borough
- Kutztown Borough
- Maxatawny Township
- Saint Lawrence Borough
- Womelsdorf Borough
- Brecknock Township
- Union Township



Counties displayed in red on the map above will indicate a mosquito sample that has tested positive for West Nile Virus.

Welcome!

Welcome to the first two week of mosquito surveillance of 2023!

Typically, I don't begin trapping for adult mosquitoes until the first of May, but with the warmer weather and rain, my team and I have begun to set adult mosquito traps throughout Berks County. Early this week, we were even able to collect some adult mosquito samples already this spring.

If you've received these letters last year, then you know the drill. I will include all areas surveyed within the last two weeks. This will also include if any areas have received a sample that tested positive for West Nile Virus; those areas will be in [red](#). In 2023, I have included a map that will be colored in for a positive mosquito sample as well.

When/if a positive sample is collected, I will contact that municipality directly to alert them to the possible human health risk and preventative measures that staff and residents can take. I will also send along graphics that each municipality can use on their website and/or social media pages.

This letter will also contain items of concern. If my team and I find mosquito concerns in multiple areas across the county, I will address them here. For example, last year, we noticed multiple public works groups mowing parks while the ground was wet. Mowing while wet can leave behind tire ruts, which will breed mosquitoes. That information is also good to share with residents as well; the more people taking preventative measures, the safer from mosquitoes we will all be.

If staff or residents have questions or concerns about our program such as trapping methods, mosquito control, or West Nile itself, I would be more than willing to have an open discussion at my office or at your municipal offices. These educational events are helpful to everyone; each event is tailored to a specific municipality to ensure that we can reduce mosquito breeding and West Nile transmissions in our own neighborhoods. If there is an interest in hosting an event like this in your area, please reach out to me- I'd love to get something scheduled!

Berks County Mosquito Team Members:

Coordinator: Jolie Coates, 610-372-4657, ext. 218, jolie.coates@berkscd.com

Seasonal Technician: Austin Crouthamel, MDCLarvaltech@berkscd.com

Larval Technician: Mason Crouthamel, 610-372-4657, ext. 216, mason.crouthamel@berkscd.com



