

Some of the common diseases caused by mosquitoes include West Nile Virus, LaCrosse Encephalitis and St. Louis Encephalitis, with West Nile Virus being the most common.

- West Nile virus is spread to humans through the bite of a Northern House Mosquito (*Culex pipiens*) that is infected with the virus. Mosquitoes first become exposed to the virus when they feed on birds that are infected with the WNV. Most cases occur between April and October. Allen County, Ohio has reported one human case in 2007.
- Most WNV infections cause either no symptoms or symptoms that are so mild that people do not realize they have been infected. Symptoms may include: headache, body aches, fever, tiredness, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and death.
- Information on testing dead birds for WNV is available by calling CPH at 645-BITE, Franklin County Board of Health at 462-BITE or the Communicable Disease Prevention Team at Columbus Public Health at 645-1474.

Some of the common diseases caused by ticks include Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, with Lyme disease being the most common.

- During 2003-2005, the CDC received reports of 64,382 Lyme disease cases from 46 states and the District of Columbia. This number had more than doubled since 1991. Franklin County, Ohio has one confirmed case for 2007.
- Lyme disease is caused by the spirochete *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans by the bite of infected blacklegged ticks.
- Symptoms include fatigue, chills, headache, fever, and a characteristic rash. Left untreated, it may lead to joint, heart and nervous system involvement.
- Information on testing is available by contacting Columbus Public Health at 645-1474. The Ohio Department of Health will test LIVE ticks if a patient is symptomatic; however, testing of a tick provides little benefit in diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease.

PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Investigate ALL reports of Vector-Borne illnesses.
2. Test for and eliminate vectors as appropriate.
3. Monitor and control possible mosquito breeding sites.
4. Facilitate convalescent titers.

Disease Incidence

Cases reported in Columbus & Franklin County
July 2007

PERTUSSIS: 11	RUBELLA: 0
MUMPS: 0	MEASLES: 0
SALMONELLA: 17	SHIGELLA: 4
HEPATITIS A: 0	
WEST NILE VIRUS: 0	

Numbers may change slightly after case investigations or due to late reporting.

Report Disease with Ease - 24 hours a day
719-8888 (phone) 719-8890 (fax) cdrs@co.franklin.oh.us (email)

Brought to you by the Communicable Disease Reporting System (CDRS)
Website: <http://www.cdrsinfo.com>

****Provided to you through a grant from the Ohio Department of Health****

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