



*Jeffrey Hill M.D., Health Commissioner/Medical Director
Ben Avery, Administrator*

*150 E. Second St.
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
Phone: 740.779.9652
www.rosscountyhealth.org*

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 9, 2018

CONTACT: *Susan R. Smith, PIO*
740.779.1039

Mosquitoes Test Positive for West Nile Virus

As of August 6, 2018, Ross County Health District had collected 3,620 mosquitoes for testing. On August 7, 2018, the Ohio Department of Health notified the Health District that 4 of the locations where mosquitoes have been trapped had mosquitoes that tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). These locations include:

- Taylor Road, Paint Creek Campgrounds
- Broadway Street, South Salem
- Page Road, Chillicothe (North Fork Village)
- Warner Avenue, Chillicothe

Mosquitoes testing positive for WNV in Ohio this year currently total 1,078 statewide. Human cases of WNV in Ohio this year total 2, with one being a Ross County resident. Finding positive mosquitoes is not surprising, as WNV has been in Ohio for nearly 20 years. The best way to prevent WNV is to prevent the bite. Use repellents, wear protective clothing (long sleeves, long pants, tuck in clothing), and reduce sources of standing water around your home and yard. Ross County Health District mosquito reduction/abatement efforts are ongoing and include education and source reduction measures using property assessment and larvicides where appropriate. If you would be interested in having the Health District conduct an evaluation of your property or if you would like us to set a trap in your neighborhood, please contact the Environmental Health Division at 740-775-1158.