

West Nile Virus activity found in Halton Hills

An animal in Halton Hills has tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). As well, a batch of mosquitoes trapped last week in Burlington tested positive, the third batch in Halton following two positive batches found earlier

this summer in Oakville.

Although animals are not routinely tested as a part of Halton Region's comprehensive WNV monitoring program, the positive test in Halton Hills was confirmed by the Office of the Chief Veterinarian for On-

tario. Regional officials did not indicate what kind of animal was infected, or if it was in Acton, Georgetown or the rural area.

The types of mosquitoes that transmit WNV to humans most commonly breed in urban areas where

man-made items that hold water such as bird baths, plant pots, old toys, and abandoned car tires are abundant.

Don't be a WNV victim: Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts and pants when outside, re-

duce mosquito breeding sites by getting rid of all water-filled containers and objects, use an approved insect repellent, such as one containing DEET.

A map showing the locations of standing water sites that have had larvicide ap-

plied is available on the Health Department's website at www.halton.ca/wnv.

To report standing water or for more information about West Nile virus, please dial 311 or 1-866-442-5866, or e-mail wnv@halton.ca

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GERMAN VISITORS: Twenty-one German Rover Scouts and their leaders used the Blue Springs Scout Reserve as their base for part of a three-week trip to Ontario. The visitors held a barbecue with a group of Rovers from Toronto on Saturday at the camp west of Acton. — Frances Learment photo

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