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## West Nile crow found in Milton

Halton's first case of West Nile virus this season has been detected in Milton.

The Canadian Co-operative Wildlife Health Centre in Guelph confirmed Friday that a dead crow picked up by the Halton Region Health Department last Tuesday tested positive for the virus. The crow was found in the area of Main Street East and Ontario Street South.

"Late August/early September is the traditional peak time for risk of human infection with West Nile virus," said Dr. Monir Taha, Halton's associate medical officer of health.

"It is still too early to say whether this year will be milder than previous years or not, therefore Halton residents should make personal protection against mosquito bites a priority."

Mosquitoes can transmit West Nile virus to humans after becoming infected by feeding on the blood of birds carrying the virus. The following are steps residents can take to protect themselves and their families from mosquitoes:

- Cover up. Wear light-coloured, long-sleeved shirts and pants with tightly-woven fabric.

- Avoid being outdoors from the early evening to morning. This is when mosquitoes are most active and likely to bite, as well as at any time in shady, wooded areas.

- Reduce mosquito breeding sites around your home by getting rid of all water-filled containers and objects. Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.

- Use an approved insect repellent, such as one containing DEET.

There have been no human cases of West Nile virus in Ontario yet this season.

Maps showing the locations of positive birds, as well as standing water sites that have had larvicide applied are available on the health department's website at [www.halton.ca/wnv](http://www.halton.ca/wnv).



GRAHAM PAINE / CANADIAN CHAMPION

**GOOD JOB:** Four-year-old Adriana Hamilton gives her pony 'Sunny' a congratulatory kiss after competing in the Lollipop junior horse show at Campbellville's Touch 'N Go Farm. The show had a Hawaiian luau theme.

## Dump truck strikes girl

A 15-year-old Milton girl is in hospital with serious head injuries after she was struck by a dump truck Thursday afternoon.

Police said the girl had gotten off a transit bus at Thompson Road and McCuaig Drive shortly after 3 p.m. and was running eastbound across Thompson when she was struck by a northbound truck and knocked to the ground.

Emergency services were called and the girl was transported to Milton District Hospital where she remains in stable condition.

The truck was being driven by a Tottenham man.

Halton Regional police's Commercial Vehicle Unit inspected the dump truck and found it was in sound working order with no defects that would contribute to the accident.

The road was closed for several hours for the investigation, which continues.

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