

WNV found in mosquitoes

For the first time this year, mosquitoes found in Halton have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV).

Two batches of mosquitoes collected last week in Oakville — from the areas of Cornwall and Chartwell roads and Fourth Line and Rebecca Street — tested positive for the virus.

"The finding of West Nile virus in mosquitoes is an indicator of increasing risk of illness in humans," said Halton Associate Medical Officer of Health Dr. Monir Taha. "Summer still has some time to go. Halton residents need to keep taking precautions like covering up, avoiding peak mosquito activity times and wearing insect repellent with DEET."

Another WNV-positive bird has also been found in the region, this time in Burlington.

The dead crow was picked up by the Halton Region Health Department on

August 16 in the area of Appleby Line and Hwy. 407. It's Burlington's first WNV-positive bird for 2008.

This year, five other birds in Halton have been found to have the virus. They were picked up in Oakville, with the majority of them south of the QEW.

"These positive birds reinforce our prevention messaging," said Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Bob Nosal.

Mosquitoes can transmit WNV to humans after becoming infected by feeding on the blood of birds carrying the virus.

Maps showing the locations of the positive birds, as well as standing water sites that have had larvicide applied, are available at www.halton.ca/wnv.

To report a dead bird or standing water or for more information about West Nile virus call the Region at (905) 825-6000 or e-mail wvn@halton.ca.

Have your say on Community Fund

The Town is seeking input on its guidelines for the Milton Community Fund through a survey.

The municipality is initiating the survey to re-evaluate the most effective way to provide direct funding support to community organizations, with a focus on the types of organizations that receive support and the criteria for allocation of funds.

An electronic version of the survey can be found at www.milton.ca. Printed copies can be obtained by calling Denise Black at (905) 878-7252, ext. 2603. Those who've previously applied to the Milton Community Fund will automatically receive the survey by e-mail.

Deadline for responses is Wednesday.



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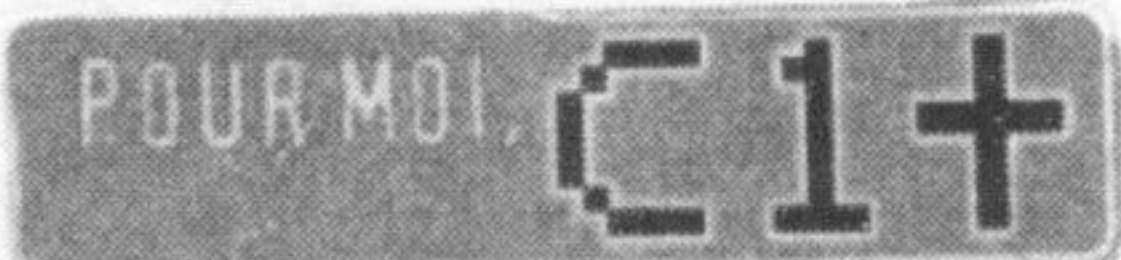
336, promenade Maurice - Oakville
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