

2026 Mosquito Season Summary

Northampton County, Pennsylvania

Northampton County Vector Control

PROGRAM GOALS

Northampton County Vector Control surveys for and controls mosquitoes and ticks in Northampton County. This is accomplished through an Integrated Vector Management (IVM) approach. IVM incorporates education, vector surveillance, and preventative practices coupled with physical, biological, and chemical control applications. This report contains Northampton County's 2026 Season Summary for vector surveillance, testing, and control.

VECTOR PROGRAM EFFORTS

Mosquitoes breed in standing water. If mosquito larvae or pupae are found, the first step is to eliminate the water source whenever possible. This may be accomplished by flipping over containers, draining tarps, filling in or covering over water-retaining depressions, etc. If the standing water cannot be eliminated, it will treated with a larval or pupal control product to prevent any present from turning into and coming off as adult mosquitoes. If these efforts are not sufficient to reduce adult mosquito populations, adult control products will be used if deemed necessary.



Figure 1. Two trap types used to collect adult mosquitoes. Gravid trap above for WNV vectors and host-seeking trap below for nuisance mosquitoes.

WHAT MUNICIPALITIES CAN DO

Municipalities can help reduce mosquito populations by eliminating any areas that hold standing water. Avoiding mowing while the ground is wet and creating tire ruts and dumping water out of unused equipment or storing equipment under cover will prevent mosquitoes from breeding in those areas. Worn out or unused tires can be recycled, stored under cover, or cut so water doesn't accumulate in them. Gutters on buildings can be cleaned so they don't hold water due to clogged downspouts. Implementing and enforcing standing water ordinances can also be a huge help in eliminating standing water and lowering mosquito populations. All these measures can help reduce mosquitoes in your area!

COMPLAINTS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Citizens can contact DEP Vector Management or Northampton County Vector Control staff with mosquito complaints. Vector Control staff will respond to complaints to answer any questions residents may have or survey the area to look for potential mosquito breeding habitat and follow up with appropriate adult surveys. Education will be provided to citizens on how to reduce mosquitoes on their property. Together, we can all make an impact by reducing mosquitoes, their habitat and the diseases they carry!





2026 Mosquito Season Summary

Northampton County, Pennsylvania

Northampton County Vector Control

Mosquito Surveillance

From April through October, sites throughout Northampton County were surveyed for adult and immature mosquitoes. A total of **578 adult** and **311 larval samples** were collected and sent to the PA DEP Vector Management lab where they were identified and any adult samples meeting testing criteria were tested for appropriate diseases. Among those samples, 15,791 adults and 1,674 immature mosquitoes were collected. Larval samples were taken from standing water habitats including artificial containers like tires or buckets, drainage ditches, catch basins, and floodwater areas. Adult mosquito trapping was prioritized in areas with higher human populations, parks and other public areas, and locations of historical complaints or West Nile Virus (WNV) positives.

Tick Surveillance

From April through September, sites across Northampton County were surveyed for Black-legged Tick nymphs and other tick species. **48 tick drags** were conducted using a one square meter flannel sheet which collected 2 adult, 45 nymphal, and 590 larval Black-legged Ticks, 41 adult and 1 larval American Dog Ticks, 2 larval Winter Ticks, 1 larval Rabbit Tick, and 2 nymphal and 60 larval Long-horned Ticks. Nymphal and adult ticks are individually tested for pathogens carried by that respective species. Any ticks found on staff members from a known location or on other surveillance equipment were also sent in for disease testing.



Test Results

Mosquitoes

There were 74 West Nile Virus positive mosquito samples collected in Northampton County from mid-July through the ends of September out of 2,215 positives statewide. No humans or horses tested positive for WNV and no other mosquito-borne diseases were detected within the county. Positives were responded to with increased adult surveillance in the area, inspections for potential breeding areas, larval control, and adult control as needed if high populations or positives persisted. A list of municipalities along with the respective number of positives collected in each is below.

Virus:	West Nile Virus	St. Louis Encephalitis	Jamestown Canyon Virus	La Crosse Virus
Total Tests Performed	324	324	3	3
Positive Tests	74	0	0	0

Bangor Borough (1)
Bath Borough (1)
Bethlehem City (18)
Bethlehem Township (2)
Bushkill Township (1)
East Allen Township (1)
East Bangor Borough (1)
Easton City (5)
Forks Township (4)
Hanover Township (6)
Hellertown Borough (1)
Lehigh Township (2)
Lower Nazareth Twp (3)
Lower Saucon Township (2)
Palmer Township (9)
Portland Borough (1)
Upper Mt. Bethel Twp (2)
Upper Nazareth Twp (2)
West Easton Borough (8)
Williams Township (2)
Wind Gap Borough (2)

Ticks

Each Black-legged Tick nymph was tested for the pathogens responsible for Lyme Disease (*B. burgdorferi*), Anaplasmosis (*A. phagocytophilum*), Babesiosis (*B. microti*), Hard Tick Relapsing Fever (*B. miyamotoi*), and some for Deer Tick Virus. 7 of the nymphs tested positive for the presence of *Anaplasma and* 1 for *Borrelia miyamotoi.*

Disease Pathogen:	*Borrelia burgdorferi s.l.*	*Anaplasma phagocytophilum*	*Babesia microti*	*Borrelia miyamotoi*	*Deer Tick Virus*
Total Tests Performed	39	39	39	39	5
Positive Tests	0	7	0	1	0

Bushkill Township - 6 *A. phagocytophilum*

Upper Mount Bethel Twp - 1 *A. Phagocytophilum , 1 B. miyamotoi*

Stephen Kloiber
Vector Borne Disease Control Coordinator, County Of Northampton
Louise W. Moore Park Farmhouse
151 Country Club Road, Easton, PA 18045
Office: 610-829-6424 , **Cell**: 484-553-5841
SKloiber@norcopa.gov