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WALTHAM

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West Nile-infected mosquito found in city

Posted August 21, 2009 04:30 PM

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By **Matt Rocheleau** *Globe Correspondent*

A mosquito infected with West Nile virus was found Aug. 18 in Waltham.

State Department of Public Health spokeswoman Jennifer Manley said on Aug. 21 that West Nile infected mosquitoes had also been found in Westborough, Westford, Boston and Waltham.

Manley said mosquitoes infected with Eastern Equine Encephalitis have been found this year in three communities: Easton, Freetown and New Bedford.

No case of either disease in humans had been reported to the health department, Manley said.

There have been 16 cases of West Nile in humans during the last five years. While the virus can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe disease, Manley said. The virus is usually transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito.

There was one human case of EEE during 2008; however there were 13 cases with six deaths from 2004 through 2006. EEE also is usually spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. EEE is a serious disease in all ages.

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1. I won't be visiting Boston anytime soon.
Dr Paul Muller (age 71)

Posted by Paul Muller August 22, 09 10:38 PM

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