MEDIA RELEASE



Canton City Public Health

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For Immediate Release

Canton City Public Health Encourages Canton Residents to "Fight the Bite"

Canton City Public Health (CCPH) received word from the Ohio Department of Health Laboratory that one of the mosquito samples collected as part of their mosquito abatement program tested positive for West Nile Virus.

Knowing that mosquitoes that carry West Nile Virus are in our community, CCPH encourages Canton residents to "Fight the Bite" by following these steps:

- Limit outdoor activities during peak mosquito activity (early morning and late evening).
- Use an approved insect repellant when outdoors.
- Wear lightweight long pants and shirts.
- Remove sources of stagnant water around your home and yard such as buckets, old tires, tarps, and other items that hold water.
- Change water in pet dishes daily.
- Drain and clean bird baths at least weekly.
- Keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated with water circulating (even if not being used).
- Keep gutters clean.
- Repair window and door screens.
- Remove old, unused tires to a legal tire disposal facility. Canton residents can dispose of 10 tires per person per year for FREE at the Canton Recycling Center (742 Schroyer Ave. SW). Schedule an appointment at: www.timetorecycle.org/hhw-appointments or call 1-800-678-9839.

Find more information on how to Fight the Bite at: <u>www.cantonhealth.org</u>. Questions should be directed to Gus Dria, Environmental Health Supervisor, at <u>gdria@cantonhealth.org</u> or 330.438.4647.

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