

## BOARD OF HEALTH

The following permits were issued through this Department.

### Septic Systems:

Residential		
	New Construction	28
	Replacement/Repair	9
Commercial		
	New Construction	2

**Building Permits** 17

**Occupancy** 17

**Day Care/Foster Care** 2

All permits were issued in compliance with Town and State requirements.

All concerns regarding potential health issues submitted to this office were addressed and the findings as well as the course of action were reported back to the Office of Selectmen.

The annual water testing of Country Pond was conducted and was found to be acceptable by State standards at the beginning of the swimming season. Upon subsequent random testing, test results were found not to be acceptable by state standards and signs prohibiting swimming were posted accordingly. Residents should be aware of any *postings* at town access points. Should swimming be prohibited signs will be posted at the entrance to the town beach and public boat launching areas.

Residents are encouraged to have their domestic water tested annually by a state certified lab. Some well water in New Hampshire may contain contaminants such as radon, uranium, and arsenic, which occur naturally in our bedrock. The NH Department of Environmental Services would suggest homeowners with private wells have the quality of their water tested periodically for a comprehensive roster of contaminants.

You can learn more about this by visiting the N.H. Department of Environmental Services' web site at [www.des.state.nh.us/wseb](http://www.des.state.nh.us/wseb), select "fact sheets" then 2-1. You may obtain a sampling bottle with instructions through this office.

**New Hampshire Arbovirus Surveillance Results**

October 28 – November 3, 2007\*

**This was the last Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin for the 2007 season**

<b>HUMANS</b>		<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>WNV Positive</b>	<b>EEE Positive</b>	<b>Other Positive</b>
<b>Humans Tested</b>	Week	4	0	0	0
	YTD	170	0	2	0

<b>ANIMALS</b>		<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>WNV Positive</b>	<b>EEE Positive</b>
<b>Animals Tested</b>	Week	0	0	0
	YTD	8	0	2

<b>BIRDS</b>		<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>WNV Positive</b>	<b>EEE Positive</b>
<b>Birds Tested</b>	Week	0	0	0
	YTD	31	2	0

<b>MOSQUITOES</b>		<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>WNV Positive</b>	<b>EEE Positive</b>
<b>Mosquito Pools Tested</b>	Week	0	0	0
	YTD	10665	0	6

**Comments:**

**Humans:** YTD: EEE-positive human cases were identified in Newton (1) and Newfields (1).

**Animals:** YTD: EEE-positive animal cases were identified in a horse from Kensington and an alpaca from Raymond.

**Dead Birds:** This week, 1 dead bird report was received for a year-to-date total of 180 reports; not all reported dead birds are tested.

YTD: WNV-positive birds were identified in Manchester (1) and Concord (1).

**Mosquitoes:** YTD: EEE-positive mosquitoes were collected in Newton (2), Brentwood (2), Fremont (1), and Kingston (1).

There were six mosquito pools identified as positive for EEE this season: two in Newton, two in Brentwood, one in Fremont, and one in Kingston. One horse was identified with EEE in Kensington and one alpaca in Raymond. The State Public Health Lab tested 10,665 mosquito pools, 8 animals, 31 birds, and 170 human samples this season.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis is a virus transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito that has picked up the virus by feeding on an infected bird. Overall, the risk to humans is low, and in many cases symptoms are mild, but EEE can cause serious illness. If illness does occur, it generally begins 3 to 14 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. In severe cases, the first symptoms of EEE and West Nile virus are high fever (103°F to 106°F), stiff neck, headache, and lack of energy. People with these symptoms should call their health care provider. In rare cases, EEE can progress to encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), coma, and death.

This year the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services identified a confirmed case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in the Town of Newton, NH. As a result of information received and confirmed by the State of New Hampshire's Department of Health and Human Services the Town believed there was sufficient evidence to implement a roadside spray in the Town of Newton for EEE. We as Town officials will continue to monitor test results this coming mosquito season and take the appropriate measures to reduce the mosquito population, hence reducing the risk factor.

**Please remember your first line of defense against the WNV / EEE is Prevention**

Since State health officials continue to confirmed positive test results in various parts of the state for the WNV, EEE this past year, they strongly urge residents to eliminate mosquito-breeding opportunities around their homes this spring by taking the following steps:

- Remove all discarded tires. The used tire has become the most important domestic mosquito producer in the country.
- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots, or similar water holding containers.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left out of doors.
- Make sure gutters drain properly.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs. If not in use keep empty and covered.
- Drain water from pool covers.
- Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with fish. Water gardens are fashionable but become major mosquito producers if they are allowed to stagnate.
- Turn over plastic wading pools when not in use.
- Turn over wheelbarrows and change water in birdbaths at least twice weekly.
- Eliminate any standing water that collects on your property. Use landscaping as needed.

Anyone wishing to learn more about West Nile Virus / EEE may call the Department of Health and Human Services, West Nile Virus Information Line at **(866) 273-6453** ) between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or login at [www.dhhs.state.nh.us](http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us) or for specific questions about WNV in horses, please call the Department of Agriculture at **(603) 271 –2404**.

**Please remember your first line of defense against the West Nile Virus / EEE is:**

**Prevention, Prevention, and Prevention.**

- If outside during evening, nighttime, and dawn hours when mosquitoes are most active and likely to bite, children and adults should wear protective clothing such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and socks.
- Consider the use of an effective insect repellent, such as one containing DEET. A repellent containing 30% or less DEET (N,N-diethyl-methyl-meta-toluamide) for children and adults. Use DEET according to the manufacturer's directions. Children should not apply DEET to themselves. Repellents that contain Picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus have also been determined to be effective.
- Vitamin B, ultrasonic devices, incense, and bug zappers have not been shown to be effective in preventing mosquito bites.

**Informational Telephone Numbers and Web Sites**

**NH Dept. of Environmental Services A-Z Topic List**

[www.des.state.nh.us/programs.asp](http://www.des.state.nh.us/programs.asp)

**NH West Nile Virus Informational Line**

1-866-273-6453

[www.dhhs.state.nh.us](http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us)

**NH Dept. of Environmental Services**

1-603-271-3503

[www.des.state.nh.us/](http://www.des.state.nh.us/)

**NH Dept. Of Environmental Quick Links**

[www.nh.gov/government/agencies.html](http://www.nh.gov/government/agencies.html)

**NH DES Directory to Programs and Services by Subject Telephone Number**

[www.des.state.nh.us/asp/phonedir/phonedir.asp](http://www.des.state.nh.us/asp/phonedir/phonedir.asp)

**Dragon Mosquito Control**

1-603-964-8400

Should you have any question or concerns you may contact me at any time. You may reach me by calling 603-498-8028 or through the Selectmen's Office at 382-4405

It has been my pleasure serving you as Health Officer for the past year and I will continue to enforce the Public Health Laws and rules in the future in order to safeguard the Public Health for the Town Of Newton.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert R. Leverone  
Health Officer