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September 2022 Monthly Update

It's been another dry summer with mosquito populations dropping off quickly as the end of the season approaches. Several mosquito species endure and will likely be with us until a hard freeze kills them off. Therefore, it's still important to avoid mosquito bites. The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services has confirmed eight West Nile Virus and two Jamestown Canyon Virus positive mosquito batches as of the end of September. There has been no EEE found in NH this season. As of September 30, 2022, the State has not reported any positive test results for Newton. The State Lab stops testing mosquitoes by mid-October.

Ticks struggle to survive when the humidity drops. During a hot dry summer, either they are killed off or abandon their questing behavior, looking for the cool moist areas in the soil. As the rain returns and temperatures drop, tick activity will increase. Preventing tick bites is the best defense against the diseases that ticks spread.

Dragon crews completed the following tasks in September:

- Monitored catch basins for larval mosquito activity
- Checked freshwater wetlands for mosquito larvae and treated as needed with Bti
- Trapped adult mosquitoes in four locations throughout town
- Processed and identified adult mosquitoes to species
- Sent adult mosquito species to the State Lab in Concord for disease testing

Fortunately, we've had another year without significant mosquito borne disease. As the season ends, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for choosing Dragon as your mosquito control contractor. We look forward to continuing working with you and providing the level of service that the residents have come to expect from Dragon. We hope you enjoy the mosquito free months ahead while we gear up for another year.