



News Release

August 26, 2026

MEDIA CONTACT

Chloe Field, Public Information Officer

Mobile: (843) 991-1391

Email: cfield@charlestoncounty.org

Charleston County Mosquito Control increases treatment, surveillance following West Nile virus detection

The South Carolina Department of Public Health has notified Charleston County Mosquito Control (CCMC) of confirmed positive West Nile virus (WNV) cases in Charleston County.

In response, CCMC is taking additional measures to reduce adult mosquito populations and limit the potential spread of WNV, including:

- **Increasing truck-based ULV treatment**, including expanding the treatment radius around catch basins and prioritizing areas where WNV has been detected or mosquito populations are elevated. In WNV-positive areas, spraying will occur at least every 10 days, in accordance with established guidelines.
- **Coordinating targeted aerial spraying** in areas where WNV has been detected and/or where mosquito populations are high.
- **Increasing mosquito surveillance and testing** to identify areas of elevated mosquito activity and additional disease detections.

"While West Nile virus is naturally present in our region, the number and location of detections can vary from year to year," said Brian Hayes, Charleston County Mosquito Control Manager. "Our mosquito surveillance program allows us to identify where disease is present and respond quickly with targeted treatment. We're asking residents to do their part, too, by taking simple precautions to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites."

Each week, CCMC deploys up to 30 mosquito surveillance traps throughout Charleston County to monitor mosquito populations and test for mosquito-borne diseases, including WNV, eastern equine encephalitis virus, and St. Louis encephalitis virus.

Residents can help reduce their risk of mosquito-borne illness by taking the following precautions:

- **Drain** standing water around your home that can serve as a breeding site for mosquitoes.
- **Avoid** outdoor activity, when possible, during dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Dress** to deter mosquitoes by wearing long sleeves and long pants when outdoors.
- **Defend** yourself by using an effective, EPA-registered insect repellent.
- **Maintain** doors and window screens in good condition to keep mosquitoes outdoors.

To learn more about mosquito control or submit a service request, [click here](#).

For information about West Nile virus, including clinical signs and symptoms, please visit www.cdc.gov/west-nile-virus.

In keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), those needing assistance should contact Charleston County at (843) 746-4086 during regular business hours.

For information on Charleston County Government news and services, please [sign up for our newsletter](#) or visit <https://www.charlestoncounty.gov/>.

