

## Eastern Equine Encephalitis Prevention

Vermont Department of Health has informed the Town of Swanton that mosquitoes collected in Swanton tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis at the Vermont Department of Health Laboratory. As of 8/1/2024, the Lab tested 33 mosquito pools – groups of up to 50 mosquitoes of the same species – collected in Swanton. 1 of these pools tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. The positive mosquito pool was collected on 7/22/2024. Each week from July to mid-October, mosquitoes are collected at various locations around the state and tested for mosquito-borne viruses. The Health Department summarizes this data weekly and compiles data in an annual surveillance report on our web page. Mosquitos are monitored so that we can help keep Vermonters informed on how to prevent mosquito bites and diseases they spread, like West Nile Virus (WNV) and the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus.

### Sample (Long)

Mosquitoes collected in Swanton VT have tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis at the Vermont Department of Health Laboratory. When the virus is spread to humans through mosquito bites, most people don't get sick, but people who do get sick experience a flu-like illness with fever, chills, body aches, and joint pain. Illness can be quite serious in some people, causing inflammation of the brain, hospitalization and possibly death.

Take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and to protect yourself:

- Wear long sleeves and long pants when you're outside.
- Limit the amount of time you spend outdoors at dawn and dusk.
- Use EPA-registered insect repellent.
- Cover cribs, stroller, and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
- Fix holes in your screens and make sure they are tightly attached to doors and windows.
- Get rid of standing water where mosquitoes like to breed.

Learn about what works when it comes to mosquito bite prevention:

[www.HealthVermont.Gov/Mosquito](http://www.HealthVermont.Gov/Mosquito)