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Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**For Immediate Release**

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**June 18, 2009**

**June 21-27 is Mosquito Control Awareness Week**

Zanesville – The week of June 21 – June 27, 2009 has been declared Mosquito Control Awareness Week.

A key factor in the fight against mosquito-borne diseases, such as West Nile virus, is to reduce mosquito breeding grounds. Look around yards and neighborhoods and eliminate mosquito-breeding sites before mosquitoes set up housekeeping next to you.

Muskingum County's 2009 mosquito control program against West Nile virus (WNV) is in full swing. Prevention measures include treating mosquito breeding sites with larvicides; tracking and surveillance of WNV in mosquitoes, reducing adult mosquito populations through a spray program; and educating residents about the disease, how to manage mosquitoes, and protect themselves from bites.

People should take protective measures:

- Stay inside at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active;
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants when outdoors;
- Use appropriate mosquito repellants according to label directions;
- Remove standing water from containers; and
- Report large areas of standing water to ZMCHD's mosquito control office.

For information: call the ZMCHD's mosquito control office at 454-9741 or visit [www.mosquito.org](http://www.mosquito.org).