



Town of Carlisle
Office of
BOARD OF HEALTH
66 Westford Street
Carlisle, MA 01741

Tel.: (978) 369-0283
Fax: (978) 369-4521
boardofhealth@carlislema.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Board of Health
Date: January 28, 2025

In Re: Mosquito Control Program – Annual Town Meeting Petition

At a public meeting held on January 15, 2025 the Board of Health voted to recommend that Carlisle join the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Program (EMMCP) to conduct adult mosquito surveillance in Carlisle. The Board has requested a Warrant Article be placed before the Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$15,000 for this purpose.

The associated annual costs are estimated as follows:

Facilities and Administration Charge	\$7804
Adult Mosquito Surveillance	
• 16 trap collections	
• 20 submissions to DPH for EEE/WNV testing	<u>\$4255</u>
Total	<u>\$12,059</u>

This is a representative schedule of the proposed services. Adjustments may be made based on an elevated risk of mosquito borne disease in the region, increase in mosquito species of concern, and weather conditions, as approved by the town.

Carlisle would be the 28th community to join the EMMCP. A Petition to join must be submitted to the Annual Town Meeting. If approved, the town applies to the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board (SRMCB) to join the EMMCP District. The SRMCB needs to officially accept the town into the district.

At the January 15th meeting, Brian Farless, Director of EMMCP, described the current mosquito borne disease risk for EEE and WNV and the status of mosquito control programs in this region, with Carlisle being the only town not in a program. According to Farless, Carlisle has the natural habitat for mosquitoes known to carry EEE and WNV. However, it is not possible to know the mosquito population and species in Carlisle without trapping. A trap can contain over 1000 mosquitoes. Pool submissions to DPH from a trap will consist of 10-50 mosquitoes of the same species. Mosquitoes do not travel far, which is why it is critical to have local information. Knowing the population density and prevalence of disease in the species of concern is an important tool for informing residents on potential health risks.

EMMCP Memo to
Select Board

As for timing, WNV is not found until late June/early July and EEE is not found usually until August at the earliest so funding available after July 1 should not be a problem. Carlisle could always opt in earlier once it is accepted into the EMMCP.

The Board would be willing to meet with the Select Board to discuss the request further. The Board will hold a public informational meeting prior to town meeting to address questions from residents and is willing to make a short presentation at town meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Cc: Town Administrator
Cc: Finance Committee

/BOH:lmf