

# Sudbury Board of Health Emergency

## Virtual Meeting August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

**Attendees:** Carol Bradford-BoH Chair, Susan Sama-BoH Member, Vivian Zeng-Health Director, Katie Betts-Public Health Nurse, Beth Porter-Health Coord. Brian Farless-East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project

### **Meeting Commenced at 9:30 AM**

### **Emergency Meeting: EEE increase level from low to moderate**

**Brian Farless EMMCP:** 4 of the 5 Sudbury mosquito pools (set up by EMMCP) tested positive. A Mosquito of the bridge vector species was found in one of the pools. Bridge Vector species are attracted to mammals.

**Prevention Treatment plan:** The areas where the pools have identified positive mosquitos are scheduled to receive truck mounted spraying. Haskell Field and Sudbury Public Schools Fields will be sprayed with back pack sprayers along the perimeter of the properties.

**Excluded areas:** Areas excluded from truck mounted spraying would be, federal land, conservation land, bodies of water, preschools and daycares. Residents can contact EMMCP to request that their properties be exempt from truck mounted spraying.

**Schools:** After School Activities and Sudbury Park and Rec: Memos have been supplied to be distributed to parents to take preventative measures in order to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites. Also, a memo is being circulated that details the chemicals used in the sprays that will be used in the fields and the truck mounted spraying.

**Reverse 911 Call:** If Sudbury's risk level increases to high, the Board of Health will put out a reverse 911 call.

**Aerial Spraying:** Brian Farless intoned that the state is responsible for aerial spraying and that collaboration between, local boards of health and the state, take place when risk levels are elevated to high.

**Public Health Messaging Reaching Elder Community:** The Board of Health will include the Senior Center in distribution of pamphlets and messaging. The BoH will also post information at public areas around greater Sudbury.

**Higher Risk Demographic:** It is rare to contract EEE. Ages 0 – 15 years of age and those who are above 50 years of age are at the highest risk for contracting EEE.

**Symptoms:** high fever 103 – 105, stiff neck and fatigue. This lasts for a couple of weeks. In rare instances, symptoms include fever, stiff neck, and loss of consciousness which can progress to encephalitis. These are isolated instances.

**Prevention:** It's important that everyone use mosquito repellent, cover up exposed skin and stay indoors between dusk and dawn. Repair broken screens in all windows. Remove standing water from property.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 AM**