



# DeKalb County Update



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DeKalb County Board of Health

# 201

## Arboviral Summary Statistics—Georgia

2017 Human Cases (exotic)

County	# mosquitoes
Chatham	371
DeKalb	135
Fulton	47
Glynn	193
Lowndes	277



World Health Organization

VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES

VECTORS MAY BE A THREAT TO YOU, AT HOME OR ABROAD

**VECTORS** ARE SMALL ORGANISMS THAT CARRY SERIOUS DISEASES

COMMON VECTORS

**WITH JUST 1 BITE** they can spread diseases

- Malaria
- Dengue

- Leishmaniasis
- Lyme disease

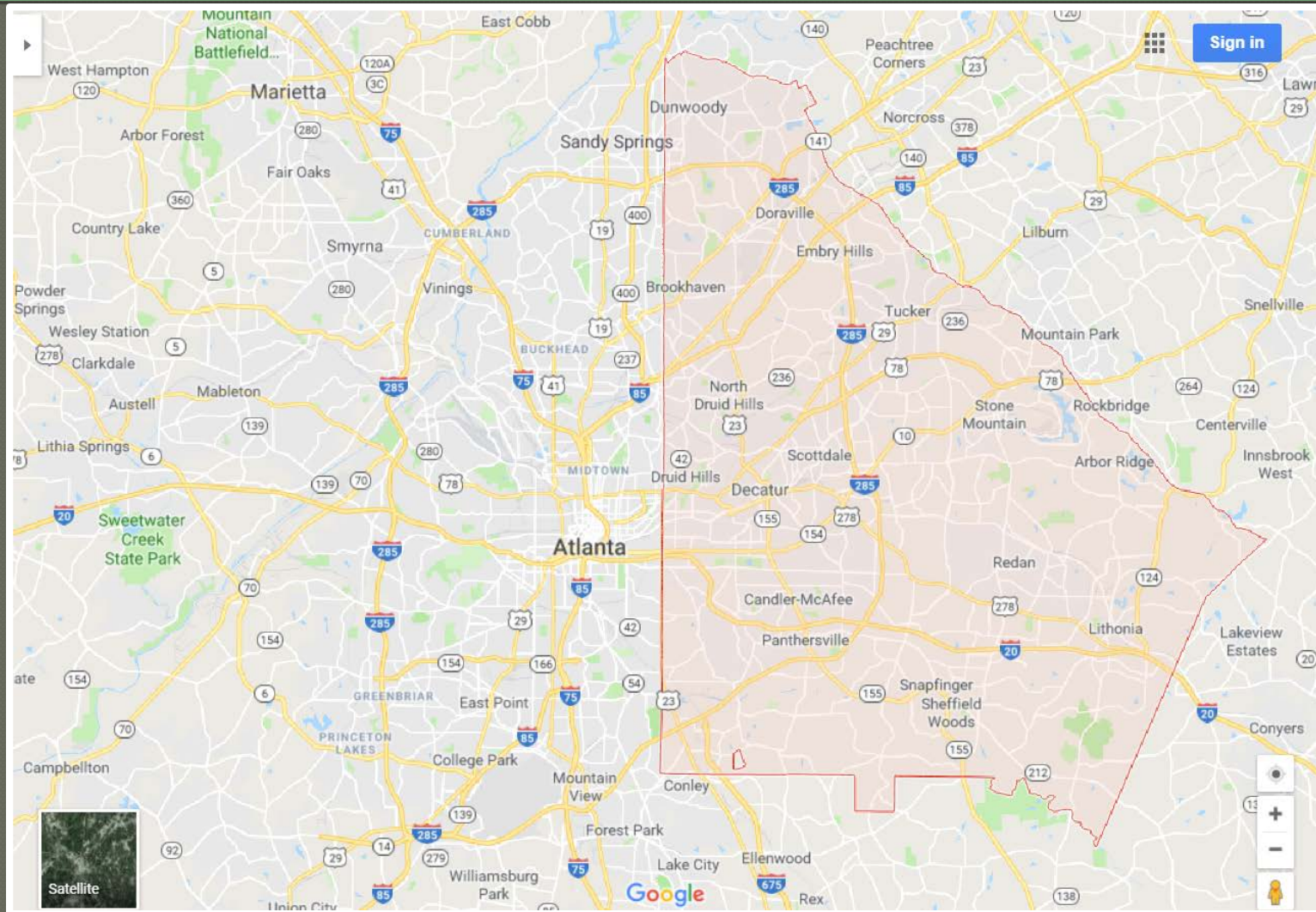
- Yellow fever
- Japanese encephalitis

## Arboviral Summary Statistics—Georgia

County	WNV	EEE	CE
Ben Hill	1		
Candler	1		
Catoosa	1		
Chatham	3		
Cherokee	1		
Cobb	1		
Columbia	1		
Crisp	2		
DeKalb	6		
Dougherty	2		
Floyd	1		
Forsyth	1		
Fulton	2		
Gwinnett	1		
Houston	1		
Jones	1		
Lee	1		
McDuffie	1		
Mitchell	1		
Muscogee	4		1
Sumter	1		
Whitfield	2		

# 2018: The year of the media

# DeKalb County, Georgia





Sometimes it all starts  
with a call from the media



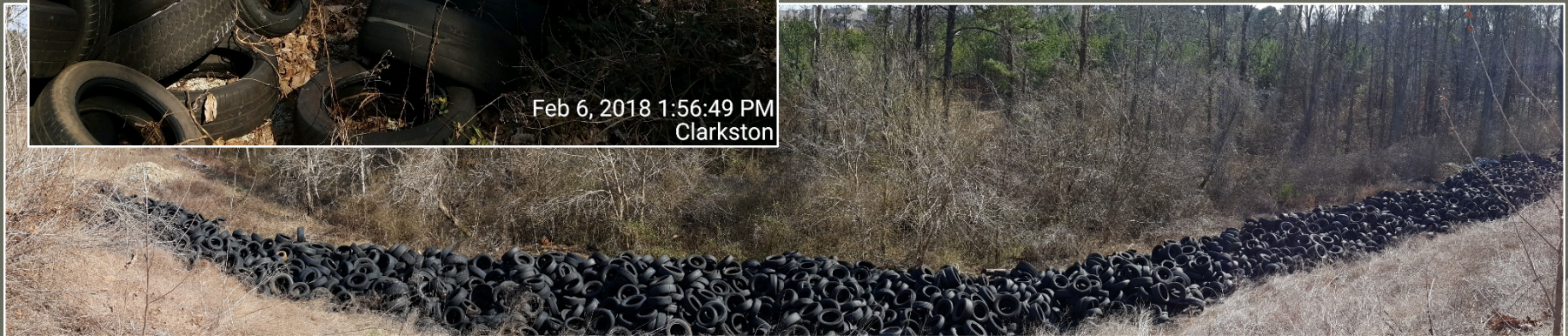


# Sometimes it all starts with a call from the media



Feb 6, 2018 1:56:49 PM  
Clarkston

- Georgia Department of Transportation
- DeKalb County Parks
- Environmental Protection Division
- CBS 46 News: *“Massive tire dump angers DeKalb Co. community”*





# Sometimes it all starts with a call from the media

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October 12, 2018



# And the media kept calling

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<https://www.wsbtv.com/news/local/experts-warn-of-potentially-higher-west-nile-virus-cases-this-year/740324257>



# And the media kept calling



# Summer Seasonal Staff



# And the media continued to call

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# And the media continued to call





# Even an article “front-page above the fold”

MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2018

myAJC | AJC.com

\$2.00

**MOSTLY SUNNY**  
High: 90  
Low: 70  
Chance of rain:  
0%

Tuesday: Hot, sunny, 91/70  
Wednesday: Cloudy, 81/71  
Thursday: Stormy, 84/72

Weather in-depth: Page B6

# The Atlanta Journal-Constitution


Credible. Compelling. Complete.

METRO, B1  
**WHY DELTA, VENDOR ARE  
SPLIT OVER DATA BREACH**

METRO, B1  
**WHY THESE TEACHERS ARE  
PLANNING HUNGER STRIKE**

NATION, A4  
**WHAT HAPPENED SUNDAY AT  
CHARLOTTESVILLE PROTESTS**

**ONLY IN THE AJC: WEST NILE VIRUS**



Callie Pierce, a seasonal staff member at the DeKalb County Health Department's Division of Environmental Health, checks a mosquito trap at Brookside Park in Decatur last week. An unusually high number of mosquitoes are testing positive for the West Nile virus. PHOTOS BY NINA MORRIS/REUTERS/AP IMAGES

## Mosquitoes carrying West Nile on the rise

Metro Atlanta could be facing uptick in virus cases, which could be fatal.

By Helena Oliveira  
holiveira@ajc.com

On a scorching summer afternoon, Callie Pierce, wearing jeans, red T-shirt, and closed-toe shoes (along with plenty of bug spray), checks on a mosquito surveillance trap along the edge of Brookside Park in DeKalb County.

Densets of mosquitoes, fluttering inside a plastic container, will soon be shipped to a lab and be tested for West Nile virus.

It's difficult to predict the timing and magnitude of West Nile virus outbreaks. But conditions could be ripe this year for an uptick in the mosquito-borne illness, which can cause fever, fatigue and in rare cases, death.

West Nile continued on A6

**AJC LOCAL IN-DEPTH: AIRPORT SECURITY**

## Plane theft highlights security fears

Background checks, security processes to come under scrutiny.

By Kelly Yamanouchi  
kyamanouchi@ajc.com

The Friday night theft of a commercial airliner from a major airport by an airline worker, who then flew the plane around the South Sea and crashed it into an island, is prompting new scrutiny of aviation security and screenings of workers.

In the hours and days following the hijacking event involving an empty 76-seat Horizon Air CRJ-900 turboprop plane and the ground service agent who handled luggage and towed aircraft, there are fresh questions about whether the background checks workers undergo are thorough enough. Some are asking whether such workers with access to commercial aircraft should undergo mental health screenings.

"That's what the investigations are going to be looking for. Who were the guys?" said Ken Jenkins, an aviation crisis coordinator.

The incident is expected to prompt reviews of security procedures by federal agencies and airlines nationally.

Security continued on A6

**AJC DIGGING DEEPER: ROSWELL DEVELOPMENT**

## Plans for huge Roswell tennis center called off

# Data for AJC

<b>Through Week # 30 (~July 23)</b>	
<b>Tested mosquito collections</b>	
<b>West Nile virus (WNV) positive</b>	
<b>Percent of collections WNV+</b>	

## Gwinnett County confirms first human case of West Nile Virus



00:56 / 02:11





**Canterbury Hills** ✕  
 Members: 136  
 Claimed households: 95 (49%)  
 Posts and replies: 24

**Smoke Rise** ✕  
 Members: 1616  
 Claimed households: 1177 (52%)  
 Posts and replies: 491

**East Atlanta Village** ✕  
 Members: 4191  
 Claimed households: 2547 (45%)  
 Posts and replies: 1605





Arbovirus Coordinator Juanette Willis, DeKalb County Board of Health ...



## West Nile Virus Activity Update - August 1, 2018

The West Nile virus (WNV) season had an aggressive start this year. Our program has been very busy. There is a lot of virus in the mosquito population at this time. While we have not had any human cases of WNV; August, September and October are the months when most cases are reported. Please take precautions, including using [See more...](#)



### West Nile Virus | DeKalb County Board of Health

Works with residents to reduce mosquito infestations and takes an aggressive role in preventing

[DEKALBHEALTH.NET](http://DEKALBHEALTH.NET)

1 Aug · Subscribers of DeKalb County Board of Health



Reply



117



40 · 44943 Impressions

**DeKalb County Board of Health  
 Arbovirus Program Update  
 2018 Season Update  
 Reporting Activity January through August 15, 2018**

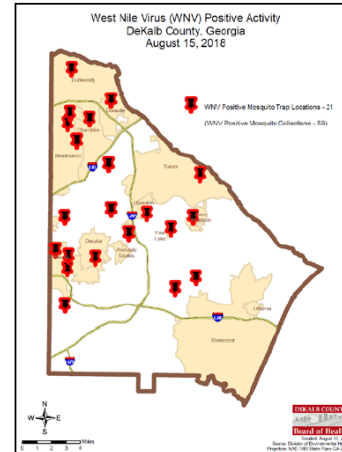
**Human Arboviral Disease Surveillance:**

♦ **West Nile Virus (WNV):**

- No cases\* of WNV in DeKalb County residents
- 3 cases\* of WNV in Georgia
- 1 WNV presumptive viremic blood donor in a Georgia resident (blood donation tested positive for WNV but donor did not develop symptoms)
- 106 WNV cases\* in CDC National Report including 21 in Louisiana and 13 each in California, Mississippi and South Dakota

♦ **Zika Virus:**

- No cases\* of Zika virus in DeKalb County
- No cases\* of Zika virus in Georgia
- 34 cases\* in US states reported in CDC Report (34 in travelers returning from affected areas, no sexually transmitted and no local mosquito-borne transmission)



**Mosquito Surveillance:**

- ♦ 59 WNV positive mosquito collections
- ♦ 21 WNV positive mosquito trap locations
- ♦ No Zika positive mosquito collections
- ♦ 35 mosquito trap locations sampled in DeKalb County
- ♦ 326 collections of mosquitoes submitted for arbovirus testing
- ♦ 138 mosquito trap nights
- ♦ 8,537 mosquitoes counted and identified

**Mosquito Control Efforts:**

- ♦ 480 calls requesting mosquito control assistance received and visited
- ♦ 4,632 homes visited in door-to-door educational efforts
- ♦ Over 5,900 storm drains and other mosquito breeding sites larvicided
- ♦ Detailed assessments where surveillance has indicated increased risk for virus activity

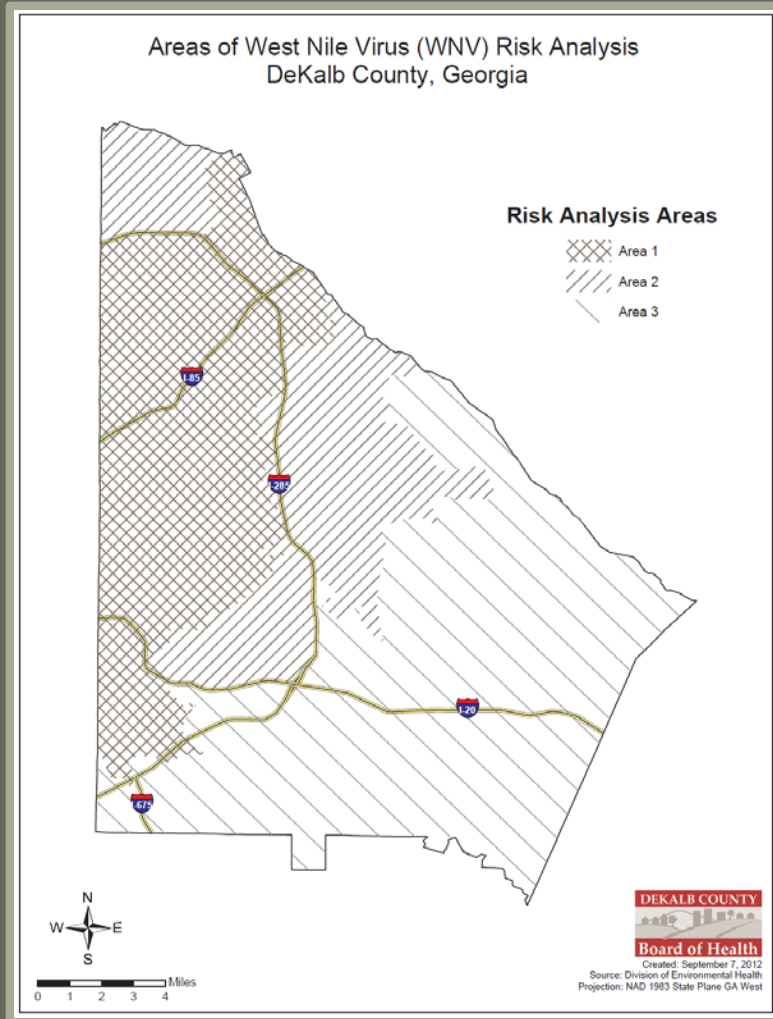
**Additional Arbovirus Activity in Georgia:**

- ♦ 1 case of internationally-acquired dengue
- ♦ 1 case of internationally-acquired chikungunya
- ♦ 1 case of eastern equine encephalitis

*\*Includes confirmed and probable cases*

*Compiled by the Division of Environmental Health at the DeKalb County Board of Health*

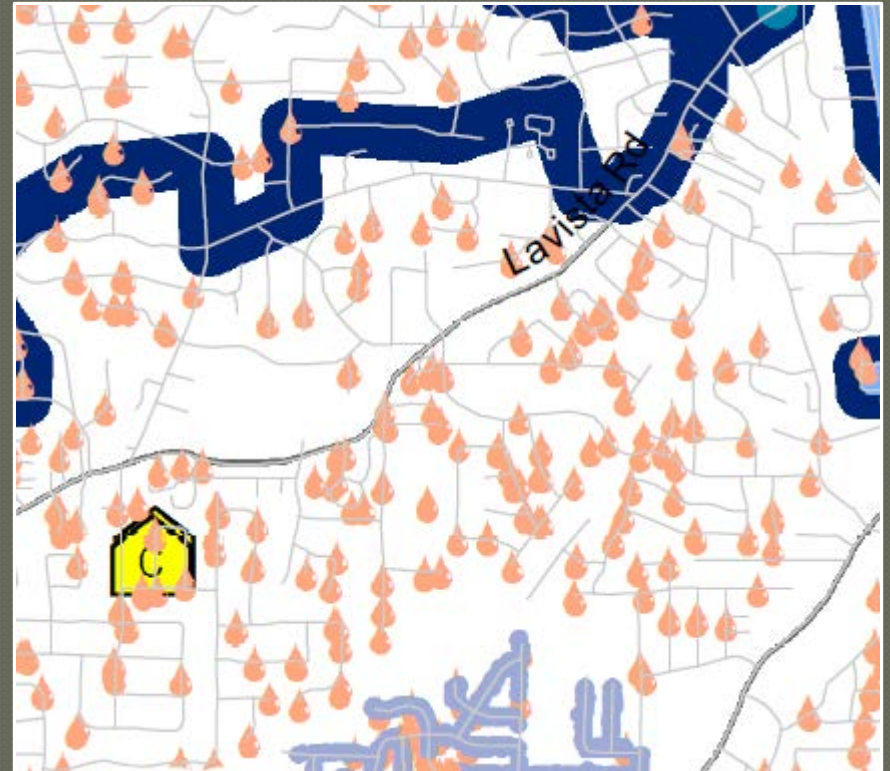
# WNV Risk Factors



- **Two cases** of West Nile virus infection
- **All residents** are at risk of getting infected with WNV
- Epidemiological data analyzed to identify **risk areas**
- Those at highest risk of severe symptoms
  - Over **50** years of age
  - With **weakened immune systems**



# Larviciding with Garmin





# Map with GPS points



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And then came

# ***THE CALL***

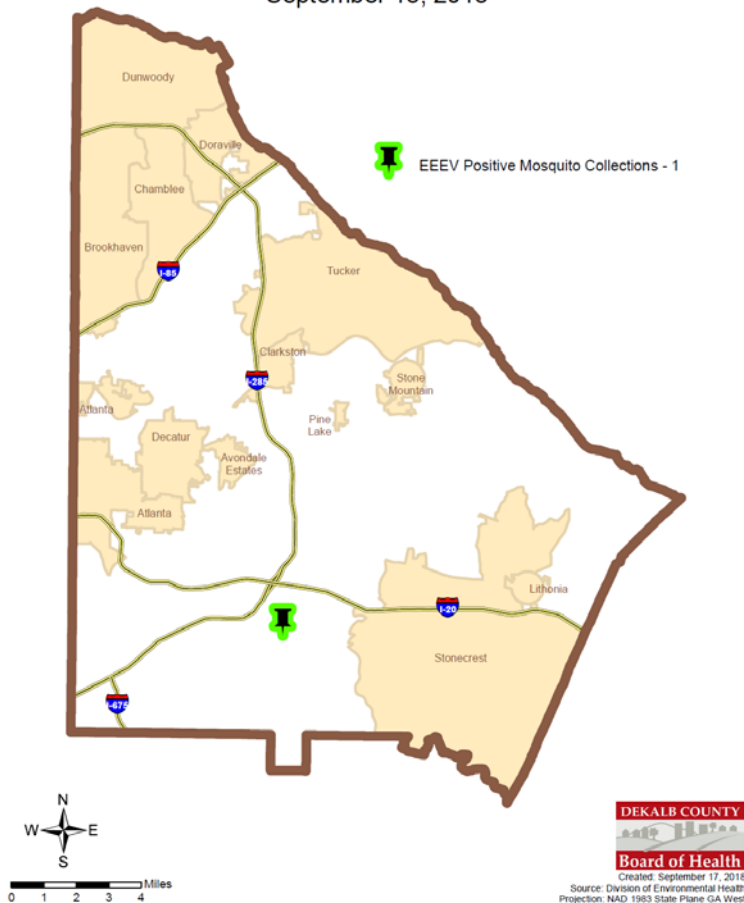
from Danny at Southeastern  
Cooperative Wildlife Disease  
Study  
(SCWDS)





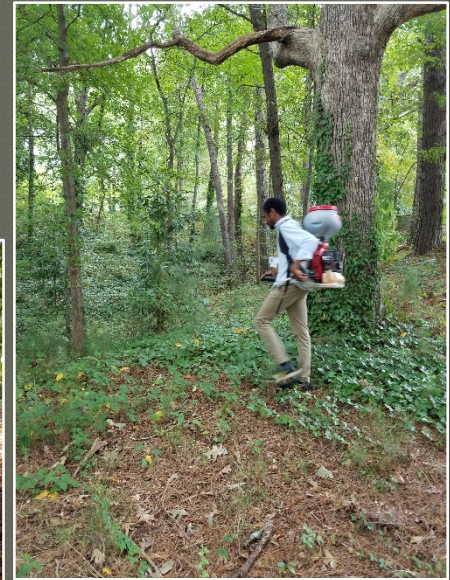
# Eastern Equine Encephalitis(EEE) Virus

Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEEV) Positive Activity  
DeKalb County, Georgia  
September 18, 2018



- **First** record of EEEV in mosquitoes in Georgia north the fall line
- Commonly associated with **coastal plains**
- **Rare** illness in humans with only a few cases reported in the United States each year
- EEE is one of the most **severe** mosquito-transmitted diseases in the United States
- Approximately **33% mortality** and **significant brain damage** in most survivors
- One of 66 select agents and toxins that must be reported to the CDC's **Division of Select Agents and Toxins**







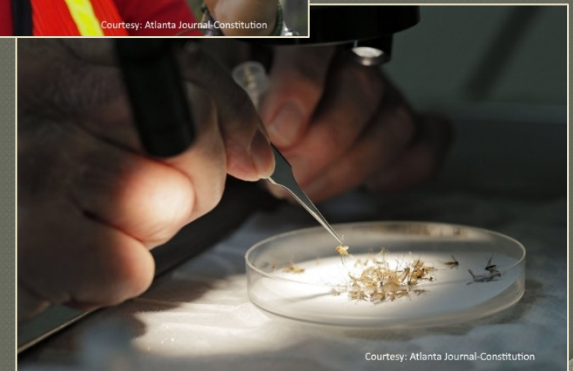
# 2018 in Summary

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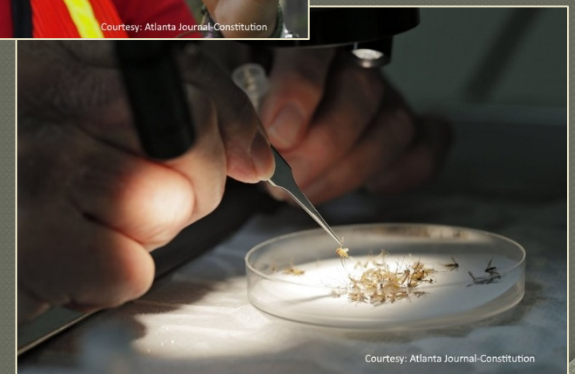
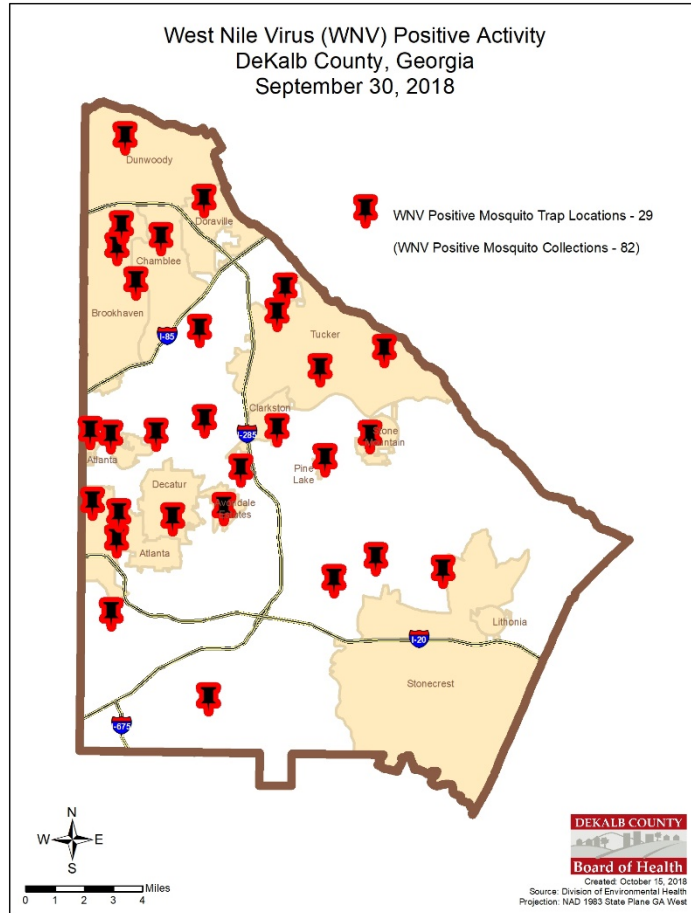


# Mosquito Surveillance

- **82** West Nile virus (WNV) positive mosquito collections
- **29** WNV positive mosquito trap locations
- **43** mosquito trap locations
- **459** collections of mosquitoes submitted for arbovirus testing
- **214** mosquito trap nights
- **10,652** mosquitoes counted and identified



# Mosquito Surveillance





# Mosquito Control Efforts

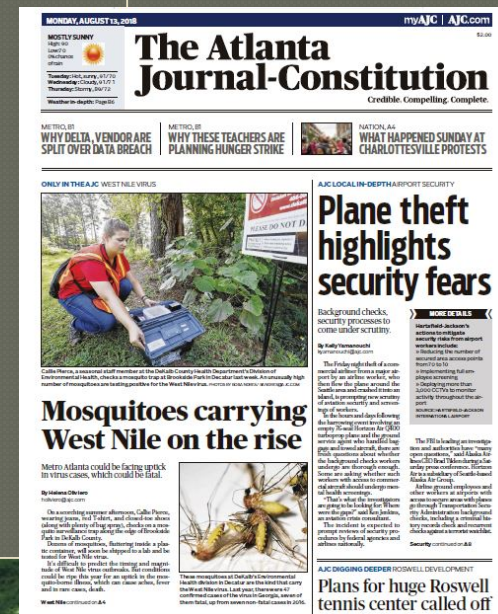


- **677** calls requesting mosquito control efforts received and visited
- Over **12,000** storm drains and other mosquito breeding sites larvicided



# Educational Efforts

- **9,520** homes visited in door-to-door educational efforts
- Posts to Nextdoor.com generating community support and interactions
- Media interviews including a front page story in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution



# 2012-2018

WNV Program Summary Numbers	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018* to date 10/15/2018
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DeKalb							
Human Cases	7	0	1	3	1	6	2
Positive Mosquito Pools	57	16	15	86	31	155	82
Positive Mosquito Trap Locations	19	14	11	21	23	37	29
Submitted Mosquito Pools	279	451	330	648	499	612	459
Submitted Mosquitoes	4,678	7,983	4,748	14,073	9,847	13,719	8,876
% of Mosquito Pools Testing WNV Positive	20%	4%	5%	13%	6%	25%	20%

Georgia							
Human Cases	93	17	13	15	13	48	24
Positive Mosquito Pools	125	150	56	40	36	276	247
Submitted Mosquito Pools	6,042	7,453	5,038	3,366	5,620	6,418	3,933

# Thank You!



**DEKALB COUNTY**



**Board of Health**

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