



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Public Works & Environmental Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Phil Bartnik, Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Date to Council: April 28, 2020

Report Number: PWES-2020-23

Subject: Larviciding for the 2020 West Nile Program

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That correspondence to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) and Pestalto Environmental Health Services Inc. (Pestalto), authorizing the application of larvicides in water bodies in the Town of Tecumseh such as catch basins or ditches found to contain mosquito species known to transmit the West Nile Virus, **be prepared** to support Pestalto's permit application to the MECP;

And that the Town's share of West Nile Virus Program costs **be funded** from an existing budget allowance for this purpose in the 2020 Public Works Operating Budget.

Background

Ontario Regulation 199/03 requires the Medical Officer of Health to conduct a risk assessment in order to determine whether action is required by municipalities to decrease the risk of West Nile Virus (WNV).

Since 2003, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) has conducted an annual comprehensive surveillance program. The number of WNV human cases in Windsor-Essex County from 2005 to 2019 is provided in Attachment 1. Ten and a half percent of the total number of cases in Ontario have been reported in Windsor-Essex County.

Comments

Given the WNV continues to be found in the mosquito population in Windsor-Essex County, the WECHU Medical Officer of Health has determined that larviciding in potential breeding sites is a prudent measure to undertake again this year. In accordance with Ontario Regulation 199/03, the WECHU Medical Officer of Health has therefore effected a formal Notice of Action dated April 14, 2020 to decrease the risk of WNV to persons in the Windsor-Essex County area.

The Notice of Action mandates action by the municipalities for lands under their jurisdiction and supports applications to the MECP for larviciding on private lands.

The WECHU has selected Pestalto as the Consultant/Provider for the 2020 WNV Larviciding Program for Windsor-Essex County. Correspondence to the MECP and Pestalto authorizing the application of larvicides in water bodies found to contain mosquito species known to transmit the WNV within the Town of Tecumseh is to be returned in accordance with the request from the Medical Officer of Health.

Consultations

Financial Services
Windsor-Essex County Health Unit

Financial Implications

Municipalities will be required to pay for the entire program up front. Once the program funding/budget is formally approved, the WECHU will reimburse municipalities for their share of the provincial contribution.

Similar to past practice, the WECHU will coordinate this program and invoice each municipality for their share of costs.

The 2020 Public Works Operating Budget includes \$6,000 to maintain the risk management program to help combat the WNV, which historically has been sufficient to fund the Town's share of program costs.

The budget was set at \$6,000 based on the historic 75% - 25% cost sharing between the province and municipality respectively.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh’s current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh’s plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town’s “continuous improvement” approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town’s leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Communications

Not applicable

Website

Social Media

News Release

Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Cheryl Curran, BES
Project Technician

Reviewed by:

Kirby McArdle, P.Eng.
Manager Roads & Fleet

Reviewed by:

Tom Kitsos, CPA, CMA, BComm
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed by:

Phil Bartnik, P.Eng.
Director Public Works & Environmental Services

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachment
Number**

**Attachment
Name**

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Cases of West Nile Virus Illness in Humans in Windsor-Essex
County (2005 – 2019)