

## Janice Williams

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**From:** Matson, David (VDH) <David.Matson@vdh.virginia.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 1:01 PM  
**To:** Nunez, Katie (VDSS); Miner, Steven B.  
**Cc:** Richardson, Jonathan (VDH); Wright, Kimberly (VDH); Justis, Jennifer (VDH)  
**Subject:** a heads up-Zika and Mosquito Control Districts

Katie, Steve,

A heads up on a possibility: With the direction discussion and planning for Zika virus are going, Mosquito Control Districts may be deemed a "necessity" that will need short-term action.

Virginia's Incident Command has been implemented for Zika and we are receiving weekly update calls, case number updates weekly and plenty of daily email traffic.

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Where are we with Zika?

We have:

- a new epidemic of Zika virus in the Western Hemisphere declared by the World Health Organization.
- spread of Zika virus across South America and the Caribbean.
- persons with Zika virus infection and illness in North America, including Virginia, all "imported cases".
- an infection with features newly known for mosquito-borne disease {including "microcephaly" = destroyed brain development, of the fetus, during pregnancy}.

Where are we NOT with Zika?

We do not know:

- of Zika virus transmission in/on North America.
- what the pattern of spread would be if transmission occurs.
- how many "ZEEK! A virus!" cases have occurred from "talking heads" in the media telling us about Zika, compared with the "decent and in good order" approach we are trying.

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May 1 defines the beginning of the "mosquito season" and mosquito trapping now is occurring (don't know all of the where, although I surmise South Florida and South Texas are within the 'where').

I sent Captain's Cove/Greenbackville's Commission minutes upstairs, to Richmond. [No minutes were provided for 2015.]

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Keith Privett pulled for me the Code Sections related to Mosquito Control Districts.

§ 32.1-187. Counties, cities and towns may create mosquito control districts.

The governing body of any county, city or town, either alone or jointly with one or more other counties, cities or towns, may create one or more mosquito control districts. A mosquito control district may comprise the whole or any part of the county, city or town or combination thereof creating such district, except that no mosquito control district in a county shall include the territory within an incorporated town within such county except by agreement with such town.

§ 32.1-188. Consolidation of districts.

The governing body of any city which has established more than one mosquito control district pursuant to § 32.1-187 may, by ordinance, consolidate such districts under a single commission which may function under the appropriate city department or other agency as determined by the local governing body.

§ 32.1-189. Mosquito control commission; composition; appointment of members.

A. Each mosquito control district shall be administered by a commission of three members, **one of whom shall be the Commissioner or his designee**, except as provided for a consolidated city mosquito control commission in subsection B. **The Commissioner or his designee shall serve as chairman of each such commission.** Where a mosquito control district consists of territory wholly within one political subdivision, the governing body of that political subdivision shall appoint the other two members of the commission; where a mosquito control district shall consist of territory in two political subdivisions, the governing body of each such political subdivision shall appoint one member; and where any mosquito control district shall, by agreement between political subdivisions, consist of territory lying within more than two political subdivisions, the remaining two members of the commission for that district shall be appointed by the Commissioner from the residents of such district.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection A, in the event of consolidation of city mosquito control districts and commissions pursuant to § 32.1-188, such consolidated commission may consist of no more than fifteen commissioners, one of whom shall be the Commissioner or his designee who shall serve as the chairman of the consolidated city mosquito control commission.

§ 32.1-190. Powers of commission; oath and terms of members; vacancies.

Each mosquito control commission district shall be a body politic and corporate and shall have all the powers necessary to carry into effect all of the provisions of this article. Each member of any such commission shall take and subscribe to the oath prescribed by § 49-1. The term of each commission member other than the Commissioner or his designee shall be four years and thereafter until his successor has been duly appointed and qualified. A vacancy other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the unexpired term by the authority originally making the appointment.

§ 32.1-191. Secretary of commission.

A mosquito control commission shall appoint its secretary either from the membership of such commission or otherwise and shall fix his compensation. The commission may require bond of its secretary in excess of the funds which may come into his hands and conditioned upon the faithful application of such funds.

§ 32.1-192. Further powers of commission.

**Each mosquito control commission is empowered to employ all necessary personnel and to perform all acts necessary to control and eliminate mosquitoes in the district but such actions shall be subject to private property rights in the areas in which the work of the commission is performed.**

Hope this helps.

David  
David O. Matson MD PhD  
Director  
Eastern Shore Health District  
Virginia Department of Health

Professor of Pediatrics



## Janice Williams

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**From:** Matson, David (VDH) <David.Matson@vdh.virginia.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 01, 2016 10:57 AM  
**To:** Nunez, Katie (VDSS); Miner, Steven B.  
**Cc:** Wright, Kimberly (VDH); Justis, Jennifer (VDH); Chandler, Scott (VDH); White, Joni (VDH); Richardson, Jonathan (VDH)  
**Subject:** FW: Zika Article Submission from the Virginia Department of Health  
**Attachments:** Zika Article for VML and VACO.docx; few, summary slides from Zika presentation to community with J Reason, May 24 Jun 4 and Jun 9 2016-MATSON.pptx

Katie, Steve,

The guidance about jurisdictions reviewing mosquito control sections of the Code of Virginia and jurisdictions (mostly our Towns on the E Shore) considering the method and benefit of mosquito control has now come to us from the Office of the Commissioner of Health, in which Joe Hilbert is the governmental liaison. [please see attached]

The Virginia Department of Health is the Lead Agency among Commonwealth Agencies for the response to the Zika infection/disease issue.

Also attached are a few summary slides from the presentation given last week at the Barrier Islands Center and that will be repeated this Saturday (10:00 AM to noon, the 4<sup>th</sup>) at the Chincoteague Community Center, and next Thursday (6:00 to 8:00 PM, the 9<sup>th</sup>) at the Onley E Shore Rural Health site.

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The Health District has been discussing the possibility of hosting a meeting to discuss Zika of the County Government departments, e.g., Public Works; Towns; and entities that focus upon tourism, such as are found in both Counties.

The VDH assessment is that the E Shore, as well as a couple Southside cities, are the most likely sites for Zika transmission in Virginia, should the virus reach North America.

We also would be happy to present to the respective County Boards of Supervisors, yet a meaningful presentation would be a minimum of 30 min (20 min presenting, 10 min questions).

Last week, we gave 750 card-stock "Zika Facts" cards to the Chincoteague-Assateague Refuge that they handed out to visitors. That exhausted our budget for such printing, yet we do have educational materials in electronic form that we are widely and freely sharing, for purposes of education.

I look forward to your thoughts.

David  
David O. Matson MD PhD  
Director  
Eastern Shore Health District

Virginia Department of Health

Professor of Pediatrics  
Eastern Virginia Medical School

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Attached please find a brief (@700 word) article concerning Zika, focused on mosquito control. Your assistance in sharing this information with your respective memberships, through your various publications or other means, would be greatly appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Joe Hilbert  
Director of Governmental and Regulatory Affairs  
Virginia Department of Health  
804-864-7006

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is well underway with its Zika response planning, in cooperation with many partners including the Virginia Association of Counties and the Virginia Municipal League. Reduction of transmission of Zika virus is completely dependent on limiting person-mosquito contact and the control of mosquitoes. Virginia's localities have an important role to play in mosquito control, and every jurisdiction can make a difference.

Mosquito control does not have to be that complicated. The particular type of mosquito that could transmit the Zika virus in Virginia is the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*), which breeds only in container habitats that are usually found in yards around people's homes. These mosquitoes do not fly far (about 150 yards) and do not breed in puddles, swamps or ditches. As a result, effective control of this mosquito requires Virginians to use insect repellent, and to dump, cover, discard or treat containers of water – even the smallest amounts of water - in their yards. As people are the only known Zika virus reservoirs for mosquitoes, a concentration of people and Asian Tiger mosquitoes, as well as the presence of the virus, is needed to facilitate the “local transmission” of the disease between people and mosquitoes. Consequently, all jurisdictions should focus primarily on their most populated areas.

All localities in Virginia are authorized to create one or more mosquito control districts (§32.1-187 et seq.) Mosquito control districts are provided with a broad authority to control and eliminate mosquitos. Specifically, mosquito control districts are:

- empowered to employ all necessary personnel and to perform all acts necessary to control and eliminate mosquitoes in the district but such actions shall be subject to private property rights in the areas in which the work of the commission is performed.( §32.1-292)
- vested with the power of eminent domain to the extent necessary... (§32.1-293)
- authorized to receive funding from a special tax levied on all real and personal property located within the boundaries of the district (§ 32.1-194)

Currently, only about 10 percent of Virginia's jurisdictions have established mosquito control programs, and these programs operate in some of Virginia's most heavily-populated jurisdictions as follows:

- Alexandria,
- Fairfax
- Prince William
- Henrico
- Gloucester
- York
- Newport News
- Poquoson
- Hampton
- Norfolk
- Portsmouth

- Suffolk
- Chesapeake
- Virginia Beach

A number of other heavily-populated Virginia jurisdictions, and most of Virginia's smaller or less-populated jurisdictions, have no mosquito control capability but may have neighborhoods that have potential to become Zika transmission zones. Such jurisdictions should start to educate themselves and others. The key to controlling the mosquitoes that could transmit Zika is ultimately in the hands of a locality's residents, particularly homeowners, and the public.

Localities may also wish to review their legal authority to abate or remove "nuisances" (§15.2-1115 of the Code of Virginia) and to "prevent the spread of contagious diseases" (§15.2-1200), and consider how that authority could be appropriately used as part of its overall mosquito control effort.

Virginia's statewide planning effort includes an integrated vector management framework with a focus on developing a statewide capability for broad-based mosquito control. Planning to date indicates a gap resulting from the limited number of localities with mosquito control capability. Filling that gap will likely require additional funding and time.

Mosquito control and prevention requires:

- Thorough inspection of residential and commercial properties to find and eliminate, dump, or treat the containers of water that these mosquito species lay their eggs in. Effective treatment of a neighborhood often requires a property to property effort.
- Spraying of aerosol fogs into the foliage of shrubs, hedges, ivy and other vegetation or structures where these mosquitoes sit.
- Spraying of residual insecticide barriers on the foliage of shrubs, hedges, ivy, other low vegetation or walls on properties where these mosquitoes are abundant.
- Maintaining screens on all home/building windows and doors to prevent the entry of these mosquitoes into the home.

Virginia's Zika Action Plan contains recommendations for four mosquito control response levels: Preparedness, Routine Mosquito Season Activities, Confirmed Local Transmission and Widespread Local Transmission. VDH recommends that localities review the mosquito control components of the Virginia State Zika Response Plan at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/3/2016/03/Virginia-State-Zika-Response-Plan.pdf> . VDH also has a Zika web page [www.zikava.org](http://www.zikava.org) that includes numerous additional resources.

# Zika Virus

## HEALTH INFORMATION



David O. Matson, MD PhD  
Jennifer P. Reason, DO ACOG

Barrier Island Center, Machipongo, Virginia  
Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Brought  
to you by the  
Eastern Shore Health District





# Zika Virus

Where are we? We have:

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- spread of Zika virus across South America and the Caribbean.
- persons with Zika virus infection and illness in North America, all “imported cases” .
- an infection with features newly known for mosquito-borne disease, including destruction of nerve tissue (brain) during pregnancy. The fetus appears most susceptible to the worst outcomes.

[which is why Dr. Reason is here]

# Zika Virus

Where are we NOT? We do not know:

of Zika virus transmission in/on North America.

what the pattern of spread would be if transmission occurs.

how many “ZEEK! A virus!” cases have occurred from “talking heads” in the media telling us about Zika, compared with the “decent and in good order” approach we are trying.

# Zika Virus

So,

Do the things for mosquitos you should be doing anyway: reducing breeding, protecting yourself and loved ones against bitEs, just as you should for ticks.

If you are thinking about traveling to the Caribbean or South America, gather facts and talk to people who know.

If you are thinking about pregnancy or are pregnant, ask the “Zika question” of your healthcare professional.

# What to Do About Zika Virus Risk

Protect yourself against mosquito “bites”, with the benefit of reducing tick and chigger bites at the same time.

Move, drain, and/or remove containers that breed mosquitos.

Adhere to advice given by Dr. Reason.

Watch for updates.

Ask questions.

# Examples of Containers in Which Zika-Transmitting Mosquitos Breed

## Natural Containers



## Man-made containers



