West Nile Virus Worksheet

1. What type of virus is the West Nile Virus? ________________________

2. Is the West Nile Virus a DNA or an RNA virus? ________________________

3. What disease is associated with the West Nile Virus and what problem does this cause?

4. How does a human get the West Nile Virus?

5. What type of species transmits the West Nile Virus to humans?

6. Why is the West Nile Virus considered to be a seasonal threat in Pennsylvania?

7. During what time of the year is the risk of contracting the West Nile Virus the highest?

8. Where, in the insect, does the West Nile Virus live?

9. Can you contract West Nile encephalitis from another person who already has the disease?

10. What animals, other than birds and humans, can be infected with West Nile Virus?

11. Is there currently a vaccine against West Nile Virus?

12. Identify 5 symptoms associated with a mild infection of West Nile Virus.
13. Identify 5 symptoms (different from those listed in #12) associated with a severe infection of West Nile Virus.

14. The best way to prevent West Nile Virus is to eliminate areas where mosquitoes breed. Explain three ways you can eliminate mosquito breeding areas.

15. Identify three things you, personally, can do to reduce your risk of being infected with West Nile Virus. (Do not use “elimination of mosquito breeding areas” as an answer.)