

## Hunterdon County Mosquito And Vector Control Division (HCMVDC) Recognized By State For 'Great Results'

This past December, Hunterdon County's Mosquito and Vector Control Division (HCMVDC) was recognized for efficiency, having well-trained staff, and being effective by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES), after a review of the HCMVDCs report outlining work completed in 2019 and plans for the upcoming 2020 year.

Freeholder Board Deputy Director and Department of Health Liaison, Susan J. Soloway, said, "This report confirms what we already knew: our Department Of Health's Vector Division is both well prepared and well equipped. Tadhg and the staff are educated and qualified, offering tools and services to other counties and towns when needed, making Hunterdon's Vector Division a model for the state to follow."

NJAES uses shared data from all reports submitted as it benefits all twenty-one counties by providing collective information which can be compared and contains an inventory of best practices that counties are able to utilize and improve outcomes with.

"Lately we have experienced some weird 'mother nature' events and being prepared is our best defense. The data in these reports goes back twenty years. Based on this information, we can plan accordingly and be prepared for anything unusual," Vector Division Head Tadhg Rainey said.

Rainey continued, "In 2017 Hunterdon County was the first to detect the invasive Asian Longhorned tick. Through effective communication with other Vector Divisions and state agencies, we had a toolbox of information to stay ahead of a potential outbreak and offer support as other towns and counties needed help."

The NJAES also commended the County's Vector Division for maintaining a well-balanced lab and adapting to changing regulations by modifying work plans accordingly.

For more information on Vector Control and Biology, visit the Rutgers NJAES website at the following address: <http://vectorbio.rutgers.edu/>