

**2005 aPHa Resolution A05-11**

TITLE            **Stormwater Management Ponds**

SPONSOR:       Durham Region Health Department

**WHEREAS** stormwater management ponds are designed to temporarily store collected stormwater runoff and release it at a controlled rate; and

**WHEREAS** the Central East Health Information Partnership and the Durham Region Health Department published the "West-Nile Virus Stormwater Management Pond Surveillance Study" in January 2004; and

**WHEREAS** the Study concluded that 'wet' stormwater management ponds can serve as effective grounds for the deposit, maturation and proliferation of West Nile virus (WNV) vector mosquitoes, particularly the Culex species and during the months of July to September; and

**WHEREAS** the Study also concluded the adequate maintenance of retention ponds, including the reduction or elimination of cattails, vegetation and pockets of standing water along the shoreline, would be a highly effective measure in reducing the presence of Culex larvae at these sites; and

**WHEREAS** the Ontario Ministry of the Environment published the document "Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual" in March 2003; and

**WHEREAS** the Manual has not been updated to prevent stormwater management ponds acting as breeding sites for WNV vector mosquitoes;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** aPHa urges the Government of Ontario to act immediately to update its Stormwater Management Planning and Design Manual and/or related materials such that the prevention of the breeding of West Nile virus vector mosquitoes in wet stormwater management ponds is adequately addressed and continually updated as required; and

**AND FURTHER THAT** the updated Manual and/or related materials is widely disseminated to boards of health, land developers, municipalities and other key stakeholders; and

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of the Environment, Health and Long-Term Care and Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Chief Medical Officer of Health are so advised.