

**Jefferson County Public Health
Zoonosis and West Nile Virus (WNV)
Newsletter # 8
August 6, 2010**

ZOONOSIS

RABIES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County continues to have only one positive rabies test this summer and that was a bat. Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) has tested 64 animals for rabies thus far in 2010. Everyone should protect their domestic pets (dogs, cats, and ferrets) and livestock by having them vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian and follow these suggestions to prevent possible exposure to rabies:

- Do not feed, touch, or handle wild animals.
- Teach children to leave wildlife alone.
- Do not leave pet food or livestock feed in areas accessible to wildlife.
- Maintain control of your pets by keeping cats indoors and keeping dogs under direct supervision.
- Spay or neuter your pets to reduce the number of unwanted or stray animals in your community.
- Call your local animal control office to remove stray animals from your neighborhood or Jefferson County Animal Control at (303) 271-5070
- Call the Colorado Division of Wildlife at (303) 297-1192 if you have problems with wild animals.

RABIES IN COLORADO

**January 1 through August 3rd, 2010
Lab Confirmed**

| County | Bat | Skunk | Other | Total |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Adams | 1 | 1 | | 2 |
| Arapahoe | | 4 | 1 - Horse* | 5 |
| Boulder | 9 | | | 9 |
| Cheyenne | | 2 | | 2 |
| Clear Creek | 1 | | | 1 |
| Denver | 2 | | | 2 |
| Douglas | | 9 | | 9 |
| Eagle | 1 | | | 1 |
| El Paso | 3 | 3 | 1-Fox*, 3-Fox** | 10 |
| Elbert | | 20 | 1-Mule Deer*, 3-Fox** | 24 |
| Garfield | 1 | | | 1 |
| Jefferson | 1 | | | 1 |
| Kiowa | | 1 | | 1 |
| La Plata | 1 | | | 1 |
| Larimer | 4 | | | 4 |
| Lincoln | | 1 | | 1 |
| Mesa | 2 | | | 2 |
| Morgan | | 4 | 1-muskrat*** | 5 |
| Phillips | | 1 | | 1 |
| Otero | | 6 | | 6 |
| Prowers | | | 1-Cat* | 1 |
| Pueblo | 3 | | | 3 |
| Weld | 1 | | | 1 |
| Total | 30 | 52 | 11 | 93 |

Year to date known/strongly suspected exposures to lab confirmed rabid animals: 36 humans & 125 domestic animals.

Number of lab confirmed rabid animals with known exposures to humans: 9

Number of lab confirmed rabid animals with known/suspect exposures to pets/domestic animals: 54*Testing at CDC of these animals indicated infection with the variant associated with skunks in south central U.S.

** Testing at CDC is pending on these specimens.

***CDC was not able to perform testing for variant typing, as there was insufficient remaining tissue.

A suspect rabid horse from Franktown, Douglas County, had conflicting rabies DFA results in CO; results from CDC did not support a positive result; therefore, rabies could not be definitively ruled out.

Rabies by Month 2010 (by date of report- results from CDPHE or CSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory)

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Bat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 10 | | | | | | |
| Skunk | 2 | 5 | 11 | 14 | 10 | 4 | 5 | | | | | | |
| Fox | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | |
| Other | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| Total | 3 | 5 | 12 | 16 | 13 | 21 | 23 | | | | | | 93 |

For rabies data tables and maps go to the CDPHE webpage at:

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/zoonosis/rabies>

Please Note: The CDC's new 4 vaccine recommendation can be found at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5902a1.htm>

WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS

Because of the possibility that rabid skunks can expose other wildlife to the disease the public should take precautions to minimize interaction with wildlife. The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) has several resources for dealing with wildlife.

If any kind of wildlife makes it into your house never attempt to remove the animal yourself. Call the CDOW and if they can not address the situation look in the yellow pages under "animal" to find a professional who specializes in wildlife relocation that can safely remove the animal from your home.

CDOW web site <http://wildlife.state.co.us> or call the Denver CDOW Headquarters at (303) 297 1192.

Some general information topics covered on the CDOW web site include:

- How to make your outdoor cat a happy indoor cat.
- How to build a Wildlife-Friendly Fence.
- What conditions are required for trapping, relocation, or disposal of wildlife?
- Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators.
- How landowners are allowed to do to manage wildlife on their property?
- Living with Bears, Coyotes, and Lions

WNV

WNV NATIONAL

Outside of Colorado, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and United States Geological Survey (USGS) have posted 41 WNV cases: Alabama (1), Arizona (19 with 1 death), California (6), Georgia (3), Kansas (2), Mississippi (1), Missouri (1), Nebraska (2), North Dakota (2), Texas (1), and South Dakota (3)

Outside of Colorado there have been positive mosquito pools reported from Arizona (176), California (428), Connecticut (13), Georgia (1), Illinois (55), Indiana (25), Louisiana (106), Maryland (1), Massachusetts (5), Mississippi (2), Missouri (42), Nebraska (9), New Jersey (138), New York (180), Ohio (6), Oklahoma (2), Pennsylvania (97), Tennessee (11), Texas (39), Virginia (28), Washington (35), West Virginia (22), and Wyoming (8).

For updates during the 2010 season visit the CDC and USGS websites at

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/surv&controlCaseCount10_detailed.htm

http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/wnv_us_human.html

WNV COLORADO

As of August 3rd, a total of 7 cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) infection have been confirmed in Colorado from Larimer (2), Moffat (1), Prowers (1), Pueblo (1), Sedgwick (1), and Weld (1) counties. Of these, 6 (86%) were uncomplicated fever and 1 (14%) meningitis. No deaths have been reported.

Last summer, there were 103 reported cases of WNV (68 uncomplicated fevers, 18 meningitis and 17 encephalitis) and three deaths.

A total of 1296 Culex mosquito pools have been submitted for testing this year. Of these, 8 (0.6%) have tested positive for WNV from the following 6 counties: Boulder (1), Larimer (1), Logan (1), Otero (1), Prowers (1) and Weld (3).

Prevention tips and additional information about West Nile virus are available online at

www.jeffco.us/health

www.FightTheBiteColorado.com.

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Zoonosis/wnv/index.html>

WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mosquito Surveillance: Ottertail Environmental continues to monitor and inspect "mosquito breeding sites" throughout the county and will continue this process into the month of September.

Our contractor continues to conduct mosquito trapping at 11 locations in the county. The trapping yielded 1034 mosquitoes with 572 Culex mosquitoes. The highest numbers of Culex were caught at Sanctuary Park (Lakewood) (158) and Fossil Trace Golf Course (Golden) (117). There were seven mosquito pools submitted for WNV testing bringing the total to season's total to 38 and all have been negative for WNV.

During the past week there were 521 larval habitat site surveillance inspections and 135 sites amounting to 14.3 acres were treated with larvicide.

Mosquito Complaint Hotline

Ottertail Environmental operates a toll free telephone line for citizen reports and concerns, that number is 1-888-774-2161 and locally the local number is (303) 273-2878.

Increased Mosquito Activity:

The confirmed human cases and positive mosquito pools indicate WNV is circulating nationally and in the state which increases the risk of WNV infection. JCPH strongly encourages everyone to use personal protective measures to guard against mosquito bites. Please encourage citizens to use the Mosquito Complaint Hotline (303) 273-2878 to report problems and to always use the **5 Ds to Fight the Bite**.

- Use **DEET** insect repellent for ALL outdoor activities (even out to get the mail). Additional insect repellents available are Picaridin and Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, (Always follow Label Directions Carefully).
- At **DAWN** and **DUSK** - outdoor activities should be limited, because it is at these times that mosquitoes most active
- **DRESS** in long sleeves and pants when outdoors and be sure to cover feet and ankles if you have outdoor activities.
- **DRAIN** and **EMPTY** all containers (toys, kiddie pools, flowerpots, buckets) in your yards because mosquitoes carrying WNV can bite at anytime and anywhere, even in your own yards. Make sure your gutters and downspouts are clean and running freely.

For additional information from repellents to how to protect you and your family around home go to <http://health.jeffco.us> and go to WNV under animal borne diseases.

For a table of mosquito repellents with protection times.

http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/zoonosis/wnv/Repellant_table.pdf

For More Information on Zoonosis and WNV visit our web site at <http://health.jeffco.us>

You may also contact the Jefferson County Public Health Zoonosis Program:

David Volkel: dvolkel@jeffco.us (303) 271-5730 or Dr. Jim Dale, jdale@jeffco.us (303) 271-5718