

**Jefferson County Public Health
West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses
Newsletter # 10
August 27, 2009**

WNV NATIONAL

Outside of Colorado, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and United States Geological Survey (USGS) have posted 73 human cases of WNV from (7) Arizona, (1) Arkansas, (10) California, (1) Idaho, (1) Iowa, (2) Kansas, (3) Louisiana (1) Minnesota, (15 with 2 fatalities) Mississippi, (1) Missouri, (1) Montana, (1) Nebraska, (10) Nevada, (1) New York, (1) Pennsylvania, (3) South Dakota, (1) Tennessee, (11 with 1 fatality) Texas, and (2) Wyoming.

For updates during the 2009 season visit the CDC and USGS websites at
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/Mapsactivity/surv&control07Maps.htm>

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

WNV COLORADO

The number of reported cases of human West Nile Virus (WNV) infection posted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is fourteen. Cases have been reported from Adams (1), Arapahoe (2), Boulder (2), Jefferson (3), Larimer (2), Otero (2), and Weld (2) counties.

As of August 25, 2009, 2,826 mosquito pools have been submitted for testing. There have been 54 positive WNV mosquito pools from Adams (1), Boulder (3), Delta (1) Jefferson, (1), Larimer (30), Las Animas (1), Logan (3), Prowers (4) and Weld (10).

Due to the current low human case counts, seasonal decline in density of Culex mosquito populations statewide, and very low detection of circulating West Nile Virus, CDPHE will end the mosquito surveillance for the season this week. It is expected that a small number of additional human cases will continue to occur through September.

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

WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County has three human cases of West Nile virus.

Mosquito trapping during the past week yielded 980 mosquitoes with 562 being Culex mosquitoes. The highest numbers of Culex mosquitoes were caught at Sanctuary Park in Lakewood (100) and Fossil Trace Golf Course in Golden (98). To date 61 pools of culex mosquitoes have been submitted for testing from Jefferson County. One pool has tested positive for WNV from the Sanctuary Park mosquito pool. Our contractor, Ottertail Environmental, has increased their surveillance around the Sanctuary Park area to locate and treat any new possible mosquito breeding sites.

During the past week there were 476 larval habitat site surveillance inspections and 142 of those sites were treated with larvicide.

REMEMBER:

- Use insect repellent for **ALL** outdoor activities. **Use DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus**, (Follow The Label Directions Carefully).
- **DAWN and DUSK** are when mosquitoes that carry WNV are most active, so limit outdoor activity during these times and dress in long sleeves and pants when outdoors and be sure to cover feet and ankles.
- **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.
- Check your home to make sure all windows and doors have screens and are in good condition. This will reduce the chance of mosquitoes and bats gaining entry into your home.
- For additional information on repellents and on how to protect you and your family around home go to <http://health.jeffco.us> and go to WNV under animal borne diseases.

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.

RABIES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County Public Health has tested 56 animals for rabies so far in 2009 with 24 bats, 4 raccoons, and 6 skunks tested. Our second positive test for rabies was a bat submitted this week.

To prevent possible rabies exposure to you or your pets remember to keep your pets (cats, dogs, and ferrets) up-to-date on their vaccinations. Do not handle wild animals and instruct your children not to approach wild animals. Keep bats out of your home by sealing all openings and keep screens (in good condition) on all doors and windows.

PLAGUE IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

The plague area located in a vacant lot between Simms and Alkire and south of Ken Caryl Avenue remains posted and JCPH reminds everyone living in the area in and around the area take the necessary precautions, listed below, to protect themselves and their pets from plague.

- Stay out of prairie dog habitat
- Avoid all contact with wild rodents
- Do not feed or play with wild rodents
- Do not touch sick or dead animals
- Keep pets on a leash while in the area
- Consult veterinarian for pet flea control
- See a physician if you become ill within one week of visiting the area. Plague is a treatable illness

The Westminster Open Space located at 105th and Simms is still closed because of plague. JCPH will investigate the area in September to check for infected flea activity. For updates on the Westminster open space visit the City of Westminster web site at <http://www.ci.westminster.co.us>.

For Additional Information on

WNV and other animal-borne diseases visit our web site at <http://health.jeffco.us> or contact dvolkel@jeffco.us or jdale@jeffco.us