

Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)
West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses
Newsletter # 15
September 19, 2007

WNV NATIONAL

Outside of Colorado, CDC and USGS posted 1,653 human cases of WNV with 45 deaths: 13 from Alabama (3 deaths), 31 from Arizona, 8 from Arkansas (1 death), 231 from California (13 deaths), 4 from Connecticut, 3 from Florida (1 death), 24 from Georgia (1 death), 70 from Idaho, 28 from Illinois (2 deaths), 7 from Indiana, 14 from Iowa, 26 from Kansas, 2 from Kentucky, 2 from Louisiana, 3 from Maryland, 3 from Massachusetts, 1 from Michigan, 78 from Minnesota, 59 from Mississippi (1 death), 30 from Missouri (1 death), 135 from Montana (3 Deaths), 70 from Nebraska (3 deaths), 9 from Nevada, 31 from New Mexico (2 deaths), 4 from New York (1 death), 279 from North Dakota (2 deaths), 3 from Ohio, 54 from Oklahoma (4 deaths), 11 from Oregon, 1 from Pennsylvania, 3 from South Carolina, 173 from South Dakota (4 deaths), 3 from Tennessee, 57 from Texas (2 deaths), 26 from Utah, 2 from Virginia, 3 from Wisconsin, 152 from Wyoming (1 death):

For updates visit their websites at

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/Mapsactivity/surv&control07Maps.htm>

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

WNV COLORADO

The CDPHE has reported a total of 407 human cases from: Adams (19), Arapahoe (10), Bent (3), Boulder (88 with 2 deaths), Broomfield (9), Cheyenne (2), Custer (1), Delta (1), Denver (12 with 2 deaths), Douglas (4), El Paso (3), Fremont (9), Garfield (3), Huerfano (1), Jefferson (20), La Plata (2), Larimer (68), Las Animas (1), Lincoln (2), Logan (8), Mesa (26 with 1 death), Montezuma (1), Montrose (2), Morgan (6), Otero (8), Phillips (1), Prowers (4), Pueblo (7), Washington (2), Weld (82) and Yuma (2) counties: 335 with fever, 37 with Meningitis, 35 with Encephalitis and 5 deaths.

The total number of mosquito pools submitted thus far is 6751 and there has been 609 WNV positive pools from the counties of Adams (54), Alamosa (4), Arapahoe (14), Boulder (55), Broomfield (4), Delta (15), Denver (10), Douglas (2), El Paso (9), Fremont (5), Garfield (2), Jefferson (2), La Plata (1), Larimer (226), Las Animas (2), Logan (27), Mesa (15), Morgan (3), Otero (17), Prowers (14), Pueblo (34) and Weld (94).

To date the CDPHE laboratory has tested 121 dead birds with positive birds from Adams (2), Arapahoe (5), Boulder (2), Denver (2), Douglas (2), El Paso (9), Elbert (1), Larimer (8), Mesa (1), Moffat (1), Pueblo (2), Teller (1), and Weld (10) counties. For WNV updates from CDPHE visit their website at

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

HUMAN CASES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Colorado Electronic Disease Reporting System (CEDRS) is reporting 3 additional human cases of WNV in residents of Jefferson County bringing the total to 20. Note: Residence in Jefferson County does not mean acquired in Jefferson County. The location where a victim might have been bitten by a mosquito and acquired WNV is not necessarily the victim's residence.

WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mosquito Surveillance: Ottertail Environmental submitted 82 mosquito pools for WNV testing during the season with two positive mosquito pools, one pool from the week of July 2 and one pool from the week of July 23, 2007.

Mosquito Control: Our integrated mosquito control contractor, Ottertail Environmental, identifies, monitors, and inspects "mosquito breeding sites" throughout the county and will continue this process through the month of September. During the past week Ottertail conducted 386 larval habitat site inspections. Out of these inspections, 60 sites were treated for Culex larvae and 5 sites were found breeding non-Culex mosquitoes. The wet and cooler weather continues to decrease mosquito activity but there is always the possibility of exposure until the first hard frost of the season so everyone should continue to take precautions.

- **Use repellent for ALL outdoor activities. Use DEET or one of the two new EPA approved repellants, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, (according to labeled instructions).**
- Wear long sleeves and pants when outdoors at **Dawn** and **Dusk**.
- Citizens should **DRAIN** and **EMPTY** all containers in their yard because you can be bitten by WNV carrying mosquitoes in your own yards.
- 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 how to protect you and your family around home go to <http://health.jeffco.us> and go to the WNV page and click on prevention.

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

JCDHE has tested a total of 63 animals for rabies with 30 of those being bats. JCDHE had its first positive bat for rabies and a child was bitten by that bat. The child is currently undergoing treatment and is expected to be fine. Bats are the most common carriers of rabies in Colorado so everyone should remember not to approach or touch bats especially if they are seen during the day and/or acting strange.

RABIES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

A skunk from Washington County on Sept. 12, tested positive for rabies. It had aggressively charged a homeowner and his dog in the backyard of the residence. This is the second positive skunk in Colorado this year (the first one was collected in Prowers County on July 3rd). Brain tissue will be sent to CDC for typing of the rabies strain.

Skunk rabies is routinely reported in Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska near the eastern Colorado border. The skunk was found considerably west from the border and it was within 7 miles of the Platte River drainage. Like many zoonotic diseases, rabies typically moves along riparian areas, making the introduction of skunk rabies into the Front Range via the Platte and/or Poudre Rivers a very real possibility.

To prevent possible rabies exposure keep your pets 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 protrusions and keep screens in good condition on all doors and windows.

For More Information on WNV and other Zoonoses visit our web site at:

http://www.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/health/home_ehs.htm,
call 303 239 7075 or contact dvolkel@jeffco.us or jdale@jeffco.us