

Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)
West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses
Newsletter # 7
July 25, 2007

WNV NATIONAL

Outside of Colorado, CDC and USGS posted 116 human cases of WNV: 2 from Alabama (1 death), 7 from Arizona, 1 from Arkansas, 27 from California (1 death), 4 from Idaho, 3 from Illinois, 2 from Iowa, 2 from Kansas, 3 from Minnesota, 8 from Mississippi (1 death), 2 from Nebraska, 1 from Nevada, 14 from North Dakota, 28 from South Dakota, 2 from Texas, 2 from Utah, 1 from Virginia, 7 from Wyoming: For updates visit their websites at

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

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

WNV COLORADO

The CDPHE has reported a total of eight human cases from Adams (1), Boulder (2), Cheyenne (1), Larimer Logan (1), Mesa (1), and Weld (1) counties. Six with fever, 1 with Meningitis, and 1 with Encephalitis.

As of July 24th, there have been 88 positive mosquito pools from the counties of Adams (6), Boulder (13), Delta (1), Denver (2), El Paso (2), Garfield (1), Jefferson (1), Larimer (27), Las Animas (1), Logan (4), Mesa (2), Otero (3), Prowers (1), Pueblo (1) and Weld (23). These positive pools represent 3.1% of the total pools (N=2879) submitted so far this year (compare to 1.6% of pools submitted as of last Monday the 16th).

To date the CDPHE laboratory has tested 53 dead birds with positive birds from Boulder (1), Douglas (1), El Paso (1), Larimer (3) and Weld (2). For WNV updates from CDPHE visit their website at

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

WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mosquito Surveillance: Our contractor is trapping twice a week at 16 locations in the county, which will continue until the second week of August. This week's trapping yielded a total of 963 mosquitoes with 523 being Culex mosquitoes. Ottertail Environmental submitted 13 pools of Culex mosquitoes to the state lab for WNV testing during this past week bringing the total number submitted to 47. The highest numbers of Culex were caught at Johnson Park in Wheat Ridge (125) and Blunn Reservoir in Arvada (108). None of the mosquito pools submitted this week tested positive for WNV. Jefferson County has one positive pool this season from a sample submitted July 5th.

Mosquito Control: Our integrated mosquito control contractor, Ottertail Environmental, identifies, monitors, and inspects "mosquito breeding sites" throughout the county. During the past week Ottertail conducted 638 larval habitat site inspections. Out of these inspections, 179 sites were treated for Culex larvae and 7 sites were found breeding non-vector mosquitoes.

Dead Bird Surveillance: All reports of dead birds should be sent to the Colorado Help Line at 1-877-462-2911 for tracking and counting. JCDHE will monitor dead bird reports and will work with the animal control agencies for selecting and testing of dead corvids (Jays, Magpies, and Crows) that die in county. We will closely monitor all dead bird reports in conjunction with our sentinel mosquito program.

EVERYONE SHOULD REMEMBER:

- **Always use repellent for ALL outdoor activities. Use DEET or one of the two new EPA approved repellents, 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.

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 46 animals for rabies with 17 of those being bats and all test results have been negative.

PLAGUE IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

Because of the possibility of encountering plague in the rodent populations JCDHE recommends the following procedures.

- Do not feed squirrels or other rodents. This brings them onto your property and in close contact with each other, increasing the risk of disease transmission between squirrels.
- Rodent-proof your houses and outbuildings.
- Don't let dogs or cats catch or eat squirrels.
- Do not allow pets to roam freely, and keep them treated for fleas according to a veterinarian's advice.
- Be aware of rodent and rabbit populations in your area and report sudden die-offs or multiple dead animals.
- Contact your physician if you develop a high fever or other plague symptoms following a fleabite or direct contact with dead rodents or rabbits

For more information on plague, please visit CDPHE's Zoonoses website at:

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

HELP line is available to answer questions dealing with WNV, plague and rabies 1-877-462-2911.

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

http://www.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/health/home_ehs.htm or

call 303 239 7075 or contact dvolkel@jeffco.us or jdale@jeffco.us