

**Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)**  
**West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses**  
**Newsletter # 15**  
**September 19, 2008**

**RABIES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Jefferson County has had its fourth positive bat for rabies. A citizen was bitten and is undergoing treatment and is expected to fully recover. During the fall bat activity increases as they prepare for winter and there is a greater opportunity to have an interaction with a bat. Everyone should remember never to handle bats and do not approach any bats seen during day light hours. Bats that are active during the day or any bat that is unable to fly should be considered possibly rabid and reported to the appropriate animal control agency.

Vaccination is the key to protecting pets from rabies and all cats, dogs, and ferrets should be current on their rabies immunizations. Pets should not be allowed to roam free.

JCDHE has tested a total of 49 animals for rabies so far in 2008 with 20 of those being bats. There have been four positive bats this season.

September 28, 2008 is world rabies day and the following web site has a wealth of information on the disease and how it is dealt with throughout the world.

<http://www.worldrabiesday.org/>

For additional information on rabies go to the following web site.

[http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/health/health\\_T111\\_R159.htm](http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/health/health_T111_R159.htm)

**WNV NATIONAL**

The September 16, 2008 update from CDC and USGS (for states other than Colorado) has posted 650 human cases of WNV: 14 from Alabama, 12 from Arizona (1 fatal), 8 from Arkansas, 198 from California (4 fatal), 5 from Connecticut, 1 from Georgia, 32 from Idaho, 4 from Illinois, 1 from Indiana, 7 from Iowa, 12 from Kansas, 24 from Louisiana, 6 from Maryland, 2 from Michigan, 16 from Minnesota, 76 from Mississippi (2 fatal), 8 from Missouri, 5 from Montana, 22 from Nebraska, 11 from Nevada, 4 from New Mexico, 18 from New York (3 fatal), 36 from North Dakota, 5 from Ohio, 6 from Oklahoma, 4 from Oregon, 5 from Pennsylvania, 35 from South Dakota, 8 from Tennessee, 41 from Texas (1 fatal), 14 from Utah, 1 from West Virginia, 4 from Wisconsin, and 5 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](http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/wnv_us_human.html)

**WNV COLORADO**

CDPHE is reporting 62 confirmed cases of human West Nile Virus (WNV) infections in Colorado for the 2008 season. WNV cases are being reported from Adams (3), Arapahoe (2), Boulder (13), Costilla (1), Delta (1), Denver (4), Gunnison (1), Jefferson (2), Kiowa (1), Larimer (7), Logan (1), Mesa (1), Morgan (2), Otero (3), Pueblo (2), Weld (17), and Yuma (1) counties. The majority of these cases have been characterized as uncomplicated fever (52); 8 meningitis cases, and 2 encephalitis case from Weld County. No deaths have been reported.

As of September 9, 2008, 3362 Culex mosquito pools have been submitted, along with 35 avian and 30 equine specimens. Only 55 mosquito pools have tested positive for WNV, from Bent (1), Boulder (3), El Paso (2), Jefferson (1), Larimer (19), Logan (1), Mesa (1), Morgan (2), Otero (3), Prowers (4), Pueblo (2), and Weld (15) counties. Only 4 avian species have tested positive and none of the equine specimens submitted have yielded positive results.

For updates visit the CDPHE website at

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

### **WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**Mosquito Surveillance:** Mosquito trapping in the county ended on August 28, 2008. Ottertail conducted mosquito trapping for 355 nights catching approximately 8300 mosquitoes with 3200 being culex species. Ottertail submitted 40 pools of culex mosquitoes during the summer and only one pool tested positive for WNV.

**Mosquito Control:** During the past week Ottertail Environmental, Inc. conducted 523 larval habitat site inspections. Out of these inspections, 80 sites were treated to control mosquito larvae.

### **CONTINUE USING THE 4 Ds:**

- **Always use repellent for ALL outdoor activities. Use DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, (according to labeled instructions).**
- Wear long sleeves and pants when outdoors at **DAWN** and **DUSK**.
- **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 repellents and how to protect you and your family around the home go to <http://health.jeffco.us> and go to the WNV page.

### **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.

### **For More Information** on WNV and Zoonoses

[http://www.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/health/home\\_ehs.htm](http://www.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/health/home_ehs.htm), or  
or contact [dvolkel@jeffco.us](mailto:dvolkel@jeffco.us) or [jdale@jeffco.us](mailto:jdale@jeffco.us)