

**Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)**  
**West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses**  
**Newsletter # 7**  
**July 23, 2008**

**WNV NATIONAL**

Outside of Colorado, the July 22<sup>th</sup>, 2008 update from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and United States Geological Survey (USGS) have posted 41 human cases of WNV with no deaths: 1 from Alabama, 2 from Arkansas, 1 from Arizona, 6 from California, 1 from Connecticut, 2 from Louisiana, 9 from Mississippi, 3 from Oklahoma, 5 from North Dakota, 3 from South Dakota, 1 from Tennessee, 6 from Texas, and 1 from Utah.

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](http://diseasemaps.usgs.gov/wnv_us_human.html)

**WNV COLORADO**

A new case of human West Nile Virus (WNV) infection has been confirmed by Larimer County, which brings the total number of cases to 3 for the 2008 season. The patient reported mosquito bites in both Larimer county and Arkansas state. The exposure in Colorado occurred while the patient was working outside for long periods of time (up to 10 hours/day); though it was reported that repellent was used most of the time. The patient also received mosquito and chigger bites while on a 10-day trip to Arkansas from June 14th to June 23rd. The onset of symptoms occurred June 27th and included severe fatigue, myalgia, arthralgias, muscle weakness, and numbness of the hands, with no complications involving encephalopathy or paralysis.

The first WNV positive mosquito pools were reported this week (one each from Otero, Prowers and Larimer Counties). There have been 957 Culex mosquito counts pools tested statewide which substantially lower than the 2607 tested at this time last year. There have been no WNV positive bird or horse specimens reported this year as opposed to 7 birds and 2 horses that tested positive by July 20<sup>th</sup> 2007.

Overall, surveillance indicates that transmission risk remains low and this will not be a severe season in terms of human cases. However, the positive human cases and mosquito pools indicate WNV is still circulating and the risk is starting to increase. Therefore, continued use of personal protective measures against mosquitoes is recommended.

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

**WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Mosquito Surveillance: The weekly mosquito trapping yielded over 800 mosquitoes and from those mosquitoes 3 pools of Culex mosquitoes were submitted to the CDPHE lab for WNV testing. The highest numbers of Culex mosquitoes trapped were 65 at Fossil Trace golf course in Golden and 46 near Prospect Park in Wheat Ridge. All of the pools submitted were negative for WNV.

During the past week there were 520 larval site surveillance and control inspections with 126 of those sites treated with larvicide.

The review of past WNV seasons shows that around 85 percent of people who became ill with West Nile virus were infected during a six-week period from July 1 through the second week of August. Please remember to take precautions and always remember to follow the 4 Ds:

- **Use repellent for ALL outdoor activities. Use DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, (according to labeled instructions).**
- At **Dawn** and **Dusk** wear long sleeves and pants when going outdoors.
- **DRAIN** and **EMPTY** all containers in the yard because you can be bitten by WNV carrying mosquitoes from 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 on how to protect you and your family around home go to <http://health.jeffco.us>

**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 submitted 24 samples for rabies testing in 2008. Ten bats, 2 skunks, 2 raccoons, 1 fox, 1 ferret, 3 cats, and 4 dogs. There has been only one positive bat so far this year.

**For More Information** on WNV and other Zoonoses visit our web site at <http://health.jeffco.us> or contact [dvolkel@jeffco.us](mailto:dvolkel@jeffco.us) or [jdale@jeffco.us](mailto:jdale@jeffco.us)

[http://prodweb:8080/revize/health/health\\_T111\\_R19.htm](http://prodweb:8080/revize/health/health_T111_R19.htm) to view past newsletters