

Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)
West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses
Newsletter # 8
July 31, 2008

WNV NATIONAL

Outside of Colorado, the July 29th, 2008 update from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and United States Geological Survey (USGS) have posted 60 human cases of WNV with no deaths: 1 from Alabama, 1 from Arizona, 2 from Arkansas, 12 from California, 1 from Connecticut, 3 from Idaho, 2 from Louisiana, 3 from Minnesota, 9 from Mississippi, 5 from North Dakota, 3 from Oklahoma, 1 from Pennsylvania, 5 from South Dakota, 1 from Tennessee, 6 from Texas, 3 from Utah, 1 from West Virginia, and 1 from Wyoming. 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 number CDPHE posted human cases in Colorado stands at 3.

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. Additional information can be found at the CDPHE web site at

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

WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mosquito Surveillance: The weekly mosquito trapping yielded over 1000 mosquitoes and from those mosquitoes 4 pools of Culex mosquitoes were submitted to the CDPHE lab for WNV testing. The highest numbers of Culex mosquitoes trapped were 108 at Fossil Trace golf course in Golden and 70 near Blunn Reservoir in Arvada. All of the pools submitted were negative for WNV.

During the past week there were 496 larval site surveillance and control inspections with 122 of those sites treated with larvicide.

Because of the constant hot weather everyone should remember the four "Ds" with an emphasis on routine inspections of your yards for small containers that may contain water from watering or small rain showers. The current hot weather can lead to shorter time periods for larval mosquitoes to mature to adult mosquitoes.

- **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.

COLORADO RABIES UPDATE

There has been a recent surge in bat interactions in Colorado. Contact your local animal control office to collect all bats that have had physical contact with a person or pet. The bat should be safely held by the animal control officer until consultation with the local health agency determines the need for rabies testing. This is especially critical in situations where people awake to find a bat in the room or their pets are seen

with a bat in their mouth. Testing the bat will determine the need for providing rabies prophylaxis to the household members and the proper procedure to deal with a domestic pet after interaction with a bat.

Dealing with possible bat exposures is complex due to the nature of contact (i.e., bat in house with sleeping people), the tiny bite wound inflicted by bats, and uncertainty of the rabies status of the bat. Bat rabies is reported throughout the state with an average of 30-50 bats testing positive each year. To date, 19 bats have tested positive in 2008.

RABIES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

JCDHE has submitted 25 samples for rabies testing in 2008. Ten bats, 2 skunks, 3 raccoons, 1 fox, 1 ferret, 3 cats, and 5 dogs. One bat has been the only positive rabies test so far in 2008.

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

http://prodweb:8080/revize/health/health_T111_R19.htm to view past newsletters