

Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)
West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses
Newsletter # 12
August 27, 2008

WNV NATIONAL

The August 26, 2008 update from CDC and USGS (for states other than Colorado) has posted 310 human cases of WNV: 3 from Alabama, 8 from Arizona (1 fatal), 5 from Arkansas, 97 from California, 1 from Connecticut, 8 from Idaho, 4 from Illinois, 1 from Indiana, 4 from Iowa, 7 from Kansas, 6 from Louisiana, 1 from Maryland, 1 from Michigan, 13 from Minnesota, 53 from Mississippi (1 fatal), 4 from Missouri, 1 from Montana, 2 from Nebraska, 7 from Nevada, 1 from New Mexico, 2 from New York, 18 from North Dakota, 1 from Ohio, 6 from Oklahoma, 3 from Oregon, 1 from Pennsylvania, 22 from South Dakota, 8 from Tennessee, 16 from Texas, 2 from Utah, 1 from West Virginia, 1 from Wisconsin, and 2 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

CDPHE is reporting 31 confirmed cases of human West Nile Virus (WNV) infections in Colorado for the 2008 season. WNV cases are being reported from Adams (1), Arapahoe (2), Boulder (5), Costilla (1), Denver (2), Gunnison (1), Jefferson (1), Larimer (4), Logan (1), Mesa (1), Morgan (1), Otero (2), Pueblo (2), and Weld (7) counties. The majority of these cases have been characterized as uncomplicated fever (27); 3 meningitis cases (one each from Arapahoe, Larimer, and Weld counties), and 1 encephalitis case from Weld County. No deaths have been reported.

In comparison to last year at this time, Culex mosquito counts and infection rates continue to be substantially lower in sentinel sites around the state. By August 27th of last year, 6027 Culex pools had been submitted and 493 of them were positive. As of August 25th of this year, 2995 Culex mosquito pools have been submitted, along with 31 avian and 27 equine specimens. Only 41 mosquito pools have tested positive for WNV, with the majority of them reported by Larimer (18) and Weld (11) counties. Only 2 avian species have tested positive and none of the equine specimens submitted have yielded positive results.

Due to the current low human case count, seasonal decline in density of Culex populations statewide, and minimal detections of circulating virus, mosquito surveillance for the season will end this week. It is expected that a small number of additional human cases will continue to occur through September.

For updates visit the CDPHE website at

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

WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY

Mosquito Surveillance: Trapping yielded a total of 678 mosquitoes with 449 being Culex mosquitoes. Ottertail Environmental submitted 6 pools of Culex mosquitoes to the state lab for WNV testing during this past week. The highest numbers of Culex were caught at Fossil Trace Golf Course in Golden (202) using the sum of 2 trap nights and Arvada Blunn Reservoir in Arvada (118) using the sum of 2 trap nights.

Mosquito Control: During the past week Ottertail Environmental, Inc. conducted 426 larval habitat site inspections and control. Out of these inspections, 97 sites were treated to control larvae. At this date CDPHE has posted only one positive pool from mosquitoes submitted by JCDHE.

REMEMBER:

- **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.

RABIES IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

JCDHE has tested a total of 32 animals for rabies so far in 2008 with 15 of those being bats. There have been three positive bats from the bats tested.

JCDHE reminds everyone not to handle bats and to not approach any 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.

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

http://www.co.jefferson.co.us/health/health_T111_R159.htm

For More Information on WNV and Zoonoses

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