

**Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE)**  
**West Nile Virus (WNV) and Zoonoses**  
**Newsletter # 2**  
**June 18, 2008**

*As you'll note below, the second week of June was very uneventful on the mosquito borne disease front. No WNV human cases or positive vector mosquitoes were identified in Jefferson County or Colorado.*

**WNV NATIONAL**

Outside of Colorado, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and United States Geological Survey (USGS) have posted 8 human cases of WNV with no deaths: 1 from Arizona, 3 from Mississippi, 1 from Oklahoma, 1 from Tennessee, and 2 from Texas.

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**

Mosquito surveillance and testing in Colorado officially began on June 1, 2008. There have not been any reported human cases.

CDPHE has tested over 40 mosquito pools from across the state and there have not been any WNV positive pools posted.

To date the CDPHE laboratory has tested 4 dead birds and there have not been any WNV positives.

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

**WNV JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Mosquito Surveillance:

The weekly mosquito trapping yielded 120 mosquitoes and from those mosquitoes two Culex pools were submitted to the CDPHE lab for WNV testing. Both pools were negative for WNV.

During the past week there were 572 larval site surveillance inspections and 53 areas treated with larvicide. The weather is getting warmer and the mosquito numbers are starting to rise so everyone should continue remember to:

- **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**.
- 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.
- 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**

Remember to keep your cats, dogs, and ferrets up-to-date on their rabies vaccinations. Do not handle wild animals and instruct your children not to approach wild animals. Keep bats out of your home by sealing all openings and keep screens (in good condition) on all doors and windows.

## **HANTAVIRUS**

Two new cases of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) have been confirmed in Dolores and Delta county residents bringing to 6 the number for 2008. One patient had typical HPS symptoms that include fever, myalgia, headache, nausea and vomiting. The patient had received a non-specific diagnosis at a local medical facility and two days later returned with life-threatening respiratory failure and was airlifted to the hospital. The patient survived but faces an extended recovery period. The second patient was suspected of having HPS during the initial presentation and was hospitalized for observation. Bilateral pulmonary infiltrates developed but did not progress and the patient did not require mechanical ventilation or respiratory support aside from oxygen. The patient recovered and was released.

Investigations found mouse infestation on both of the patient's rural home properties. One of the patients specifically remembers cleaning the barn prior to becoming ill. The other patient had given a history of exposure to mouse infested structures at the job site in addition to the potential home exposure. These cases are a reminder of the importance of implementing basic HPS prevention strategies. 1) rodent proof all structures on a property, 2) eliminate food sources and harborage, 3) conduct year round rodent control in rural areas, and 4) use cleaning methods in rodent infested areas that do not create dust. For additional information on cleaning rodent infested areas go to our web site at <http://health.jeffco.us>

**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)