

**Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment
WNV Update-2005
July 13, 2005**

General: With the recent warm temperatures, we have seen an increase in overall mosquitoes as well as Culex species mosquitoes in the past week. There was a significant increase in both the adult trap numbers and the number of Culex larvae sites found breeding.

COLORADO

Mosquitoes: Of the 482 mosquito pools tested throughout the state one pool from Pueblo County tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) on 6/30/2005. Populations of Culex species mosquitoes continue to increase.

Humans: As of July 12, 2005 seven cases of West Nile virus (WNV) have been reported from 6 Colorado counties: La Plata, Larimer, Otero, Pueblo, Morgan, and Weld (2). All seven cases had a diagnosis of uncomplicated fever. No deaths have been reported. For daily updates on WNV in Colorado, please visit CDPHE's Zoonosis web site at: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/dc/Zoonosis/Zoonosis.asp>

NATIONAL

As of July 12, 2005 the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has listed 18 verified WNV human cases outside Colorado; South Dakota 5, Texas 1, Georgia 1, Ohio 1, New Mexico 2, Kansas 1, Missouri 1, Indiana 1, Arizona 3, and California 2. Additional information about national WNV activity is available from CDC at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile>

Recommendations: The use of insect repellent should always be part of all outdoor activities. Common sense should apply even in this low risk period. Use DEET or one of the two new EPA approved repellents, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, (according to labeled instructions) and wearing long sleeves and pants are wise practices, particularly when outdoors during dawn and dusk. Draining and emptying even the smallest of containers around the yard are prudent mosquito control practices. Many of those infected with WNV in Colorado were bitten by WNV carrying mosquitoes in their own yards.

Sentinel Mosquito Surveillance: Our sentinel mosquito program started the first week of May with three traps running once a week. Minimal numbers of Culex mosquitoes have been caught at that site. During the past week, our contractor conducted mosquito trapping at 17 locations in the county. That trapping yielded a total of 1631 mosquitoes with 459 Culex mosquitoes (28% of the total). Of the Culex, 402 were C. pipiens and 57 were C. tarsalis, however 224 of the 402 C. pipiens were trapped in one location, Sanctuary Park in Lakewood. The numbers of Culex mosquitoes have increased in Jefferson County, however our numbers are still low when compared to our sister counties to the north and east. Their mosquito trap numbers have been in the thousands. Our contractor, OtterTail, notes that the number of Culex species mosquitoes (the key vectors of WNV and WEE) has been increasing each week and should continue to do so with the high temperatures.

Dead Bird Surveillance: Dead bird surveillance is being handled like 2004. JCDHE will track reports of dead birds east of the foothills and will test any corvids (Jays, Magpies, and Crows) or raptors that die in the foothills and are picked up and submitted by Jefferson County Animal Control. We will closely monitor dead bird reports in conjunction with our sentinel mosquito program.

Mosquito Control: Our integrated mosquito control contractor, Ottertail Environmental, continues to identify, monitor, and inspect "mosquito breeding sites" throughout the county. For the first week of July OtterTail Environmental inspected 486 larval habitat sites. Out of these visits, 55 sites were found with Culex species mosquitoes and were treated. Twenty sites were found breeding non-vector mosquitoes. OtterTail saw an increase in Culex mosquito larvae due to habitat sites continuing to stagnate in the warmer temperatures.

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 number is 303 273 2878.

For More Information:

Visit our web site for information and other resources on WNV at http://www.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/health/home_ehs.htm or call 303 239 7075.

Or contact dvolkel@jeffco.us or jdale@jeffco.us