



DALLAS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DCHHS Reports Sixth Human Case of West Nile Virus

DALLAS (Sept. 4, 2014) – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) has confirmed the sixth human case of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in Dallas County for the 2014 season.

The resident, who lives in the 75230 zip code in Dallas, was diagnosed with West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease. For medical confidentiality and personal privacy reasons, DCHHS does not provide additional identifying information.

"We want our residents to know the mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus are here and they're active," said Zachary Thompson, DCHHS director. "Our mosquito surveillance program and the county and municipal abatement teams are taking appropriate actions to ensure the safety of our residents. However, it is important for residents to take the necessary precautions."

The best way to avoid exposure to WNV is to avoid mosquito bites. Residents should practice the '4Ds' to reduce their risk:

- **DEET All Day, Every Day:** Whenever you're outside, use insect repellents that contain DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus.
- **DRESS:** Wear long, loose and light-colored clothing outside.
- **DRAIN:** Remove all areas of standing water in and around your home.
- **DUSK & DAWN:** Limit outdoor activities during dusk and dawn hours when mosquitoes are most active.

"Since there is no vaccine or specific antiviral treatments for WNV infection, residents should adhere to preventive measures to protect themselves and their loved ones," said Dr. Christopher Perkins, DCHHS medical director/health authority.

DCHHS has information and materials about WNV on its website: www.dallascounty.org/westnilevirus.

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