



ECDHD Bulletin #: 4

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WEST NILE VIRUS DETECTED

[Columbus, NE] – West Nile Virus (WNV) has been detected in the East Central District Health Department service area (Boone, Colfax, Nance, and Platte Counties). The report comes from routine mosquito trapping for WNV monitoring, in sites around Columbus that had a mosquito pool test positive for WNV. There have been no confirmed human cases within the East Central District service area.

Residents of Boone, Colfax, Nance, and Platte Counties are advised to take steps to avoid mosquito exposure. Residents over 60 years of age, children, and those with weakened immune systems (diabetes, cancer, hypertension, kidney disease, and those with recent organ transplants) are most vulnerable for WNV infection and are advised to take special precaution.

Most people infected with WNV do not feel sick. About 1 in 5 people who are infected develop a fever and other symptoms. About 1 out of 150 infected people develop a serious, sometimes fatal, illness. You can reduce your risk of WNV by using insect repellent and wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants to prevent mosquito bites.

Symptoms of WNV can include:

- Fever
- Joint pains
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Weakness
- Rash
- Diarrhea
- Disorientation
- Neck stiffness

If you have any of these symptoms, please see your healthcare provider

For more information, visit:

<https://www.ecdhd.ne.gov>
<https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/>
<https://www.cdc.gov/features/stopmosquitoes/index.html>
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/West-Nile-Virus-Education.aspx>
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/West-Nile-Virus.aspx>

Please watch the East Central District Health Department Facebook page for further updates.

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