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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Nile Virus Season is Underway in Dallas County

DALLAS (June 15, 2023) – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) reminds the community that West Nile Virus Season (WNV) is underway, and several areas of Dallas County are reporting increased mosquito activity. Mosquito pools have also been identified that have tested positive for WNV, but at this time no human cases have been reported. In the 2022 season, DCHHS reported three human WNV cases and one death.

“We are seeing an increase in mosquito activity in Dallas County, and it is always important to try to prevent mosquito bites,” said Dr. Philip Huang, DCHHS Director. “Please follow the 4 Ds for mosquito bite prevention.”

- **Deet:** Whenever you’re outside, use insect repellents that contain DEET or other EPA-approved repellents and follow instructions.
- **Dress:** Wear long, loose, and light-colored clothing when outdoors.
- **Drain:** Drain or treat all standing water in and around your home or workplace where mosquitoes could lay eggs.
- **Dawn to Dusk:** Limit your time outdoors during these times when mosquitos are most active.

WNV is a disease that spreads by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes can become infected when they feed on the blood of infected birds. The infected mosquitoes can then transmit WNV to humans and animals. Severe WNV infections can cause neurologic complications such as encephalitis. Milder symptoms include fever, headache, and muscle aches. There is no vaccine or specific treatment for WNV. For more information, visit our website:

<https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/westnile.php>

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