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For Immediate Release

DCHHS

Safe families, healthy lives.

Dallas County Health and Human Services

DCHHS Reports the 18th Human Case of West Nile Virus

DALLAS (Aug. 8, 2016) – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) has confirmed an 18th human case of West Nile infection in Dallas County for the 2016 season. The patient is resident of the 75212 zip code of Dallas, and was diagnosed with West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease. For medical confidentiality and personal privacy reasons, DCHHS does not provide additional identifying information.

"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," said Zachary Thompson, DCHHS director.

The best way to avoid exposure to WEST Nile Virus is to avoid mosquito bites. Residents should use the 4Ds to reduce their risk:

- **DEET All Day, Every Day:** 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 outside.
- **Drain:** Drain or treat all standing water in and around your home or workplace.
- **Dusk & Dawn:** Limit outdoor activities during dusk and dawn 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.

For more information on mosquito prevention, go to: http://www.dallascounty.org/department/hhs/mosquito_prevention.html.

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