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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DCHHS Confirms Mosquito Samples Test Positive for West Nile in Addison for the 2019 Season

DALLAS (May 20, 2019) – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) laboratory confirmed mosquito samples have tested positive for West Nile virus. The mosquito traps were collected from the 75254 zip code of Addison.

"It's early in the season but we must be vigilant about protecting ourselves, our families and the community from mosquito bites." said Dr. Philip Huang, DCHHS Director.

Residents should use the 4Ds to reduce exposure to mosquitoes:

- **DEET All day, every day**: Whenever outside, use insect repellents that have the active ingredient DEET or other EPA-registered repellents and always follow label instructions.
- **Dress**: Wear long, loose, and light-colored clothing outside.
- **Drain**: Drain or treat all standing water in and around your home or workplace where mosquitoes could lay eggs.
- Day and night: Fight the bite -limit your time outdoors mosquitos are active anytime day or night.

Standing water can be treated with EPA-registered larvicides that are available for retail purchase. Larvicides are products used to kill immature mosquitoes before they become adults. Larvicides are applied directly to water sources that hold mosquito eggs, larvae or pupae. When used consistently, larvicides can help reduce the overall mosquito burden by limiting the number of mosquitoes that are produced, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

For more information visit our website <u>https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/westnile.php</u>