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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DCHHS reports an additional three human cases of West Nile Virus for the 2020 Season

DALLAS (Sept. 18, 2020) – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is reporting an additional three human cases of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in Dallas County for 2020. To date, there have been 15 human cases of West Nile disease, 4 of which have resulted in death. For medical confidentiality and personal privacy reasons, DCHHS does not provide additional identifying information.

City of Residence	Zip code	Age	Condition
Dallas	75238	70 years	WNND
Dallas	75215	62 years	WNND
Dallas	75230	37 years	WNF

This season, mosquito samples have tested positive for WNV in the cities of Addison, Balch Springs, Carrollton, Cedar Hill, Coppell, Dallas, Desoto, Duncanville, Farmers Branch, Garland, Glenn Heights, Highland Park, Hutchins, Irving, Lancaster, Mesquite, Richardson, Rowlett, and University Park. Ground spraying this week was scheduled in the cities of Dallas, Lancaster, and Sunnyvale.

“Dallas County continues to see West Nile Virus activity in our community. Please continue to take steps to avoid mosquito bites and to reduce mosquito populations,” said Dr. Philip Huang, Director of DCHHS. “Staying vigilant and practicing the 4Ds are the best ways to avoid exposure to mosquito-borne diseases.”

- **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 where mosquitoes could lay eggs.
- **All Day long:** Day, Dusk and Dawn - Limit your time outdoors mosquitoes are active anytime day or night.

WNV is a disease that is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes can become infected when they feed on the blood from 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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