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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DCHHS Reports the Fifth West Nile Virus Human Case in Dallas County

Dallas (July 31, 2024) – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) reports the fifth West Nile Virus (WNV) human case in Dallas County for the 2024 season. The patient is a female resident of the City of Coppell in the 75019 zip code diagnosed with West Nile Non-Neuroinvasive Disease (WNNND). Due to patient confidentiality, DCHHS does not disclose patient information.

“We are urging Dallas County residents to remain vigilant in protecting themselves against West Nile Virus following the confirmation of our fifth case this season,” said Dr. Philip Huang, DCHHS Director. “With heightened mosquito activity, it’s crucial to implement preventive measures. By following the 4 D’s, you can significantly reduce your risk of infection and safeguard your family’s health.”

- **DEET:** 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.
- **DUSK to DAWN:** Limit your time outdoors from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

WNV is a disease that is spread 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/communicable-diseases/west-nile-virus.php>

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