



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMAN CASE OF WEST NILE VIRUS IN DAWSON COUNTY

Lexington, NE --- The first human case of West Nile virus of the summer has been confirmed in Dawson County. West Nile virus is spread to people after they are bitten by a mosquito carrying the virus. Symptoms typically develop between 3 and 14 days after bitten by an infected mosquito. It is important to reduce your chance of being bitten by mosquitoes. Be especially cautious in the mornings and evenings when mosquitoes are most active. Using insect repellent helps to decrease the chance of being bitten. For best protection against mosquitos, use insect repellent containing DEET, IR3535, Oil of Eucalyptus or Picaridin.

Two Rivers Public Health Department (TRPHD) monitors suspected and confirmed cases throughout the year. TRPHD conducts surveillance for West Nile virus through mosquito trapping and testing, monitoring reports and testing dead birds, and human case investigations. TRPHD works with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to prepare for and prevent new cases of West Nile virus.

West Nile virus may cause fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. These usually last a few days. A few people will develop severe illness and neurological symptoms such as unusually severe headache or confusion that require immediate medical attention.

For more information call or visit www.trphd.org or call TRPHD at (308) 995-4778.

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The Mission of Two Rivers Public Health Department is to assess and monitor the health status of the district and facilitate the linking of resources to assure health promotion, prevention, and protection for the people within Buffalo, Dawson, Franklin, Gosper, Harlan, Kearney, and Phelps Counties.

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