



Health Department

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MEDIA RELEASE

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First West Nile Virus Case Confirmed in Utah County (2019)

Residents Encouraged to Prevent Exposure with the D's of Mosquito Prevention

(Utah County) -- Utah County Health Department (UCHD) has confirmed a human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) in Utah County. This is the first Utah County case since the 2017 mosquito season. Public health officials are encouraging individuals to take precautionary measures to avoid WNV exposure.

Protect yourself with the Mosquito Prevention "Ds":

DRAIN standing water. Remove items that can collect standing water such as tires, buckets, unused flower pots, toys, etc.

DAWN and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outside

DRESS appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outside

DEFEND yourself by using insect repellent with DEET

DOOR and window screens should be in good working condition

DISTRICT personnel are available to address mosquito concerns. Call 801-851-7637 or fill out a service request form online at: bit.ly/UCMosquitoRequest

"This should serve as a reminder to all residents to take steps to prevent mosquitoes and West Nile Virus. The importance of using insect repellent with DEET can not be overstated," says Mosquito Abatement Director, Dan Miller. "We encourage residents to use online tools to request free services from the Health Department's Mosquito Abatement District. Another great online tool is the interactive GIS maps showing current and past mosquito trapping activity, including positive WNV mosquito pools."

Mosquito Abatement Service Request Form: bit.ly/UCMosquitoRequest

Utah County Mosquito Interactive Map: bit.ly/UCMosquitoTesting

WNV can cause mild to severe illness and many people may not even know they have been infected. It is estimated that less than 1% of people infected with WNV will develop severe infection, which can result in debilitating long-term complications or death. Symptoms of WNV appear within 3 to 14 days and include fever, headache and body aches. Severe infections may include high fever, neck stiffness, disorientation, coma, tremors and convulsions.

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