

Two More Residents Reported Infected With West Nile Virus *Total of 4 Cases of Human Disease in St. Charles County*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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St. Charles County — The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment announced today that recent reports indicate that two additional St. Charles County residents have tested positive for the West Nile virus. One is a 38-year-old male who resides in the City of O'Fallon. The other is a 53-year-old female who lives in unincorporated St. Charles County but who probably contracted the virus from mosquito bites received during a visit to Louisiana. The 53-year-old female was hospitalized but has been released. The 38-year-old male did not require hospitalization. Notification came from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

Two previous cases of West Nile Virus in humans were reported in St. Charles County in early September, one a 74-year-old male resident of St. Peters and the other a 72-year-old male resident of St. Charles City. Mosquito control and surveillance efforts are continuing in the county. The Department of Community Health and the Environment

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stresses prevention, and urges residents to take these steps to reduce their risk of exposure:

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants, and socks when outdoors in areas with a lot of mosquito activity.
- Use mosquito repellents containing DEET (follow product instructions carefully).
- Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed.
- Remove tires, buckets, and other water-holding objects.
- Avoid spending time outdoors at dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are apt to be most active and if you are outside at that time use mosquito repellent.
- Clean birdbaths and change the water and at least once a week.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools or drain and cover if not in use; prevent water from accumulating in pool covers.
- Unclog gutters and down spouts.
- Make sure screens fit tightly in doors and windows.

Extensive West Nile Virus information and periodic updates can be found on the Department of Community Health and the Environment website at www.scchealth.org.

Click on the link to the Metro West Nile Virus Information Center on the right side of the page. Information is also available by calling 636-949-7400.