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Denton County Reports West Nile Virus Case in The Colony

September 7, 2017 – Denton County Public Health (DCPH) is reporting its seventh human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) for 2017 in Denton County. The resident lives in The Colony and was diagnosed with West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease. To protect patient confidentiality, no further personal information will be released.

Juan Rodriguez, Assistant Director and Chief Epidemiologist with DCPH, recommends that residents take a proactive approach to minimizing exposure to mosquitoes. “While not every mosquito carries the virus, West Nile illness is present in Denton County,” he states. “We encourage residents to reduce their risk by adhering to the recommended precautions, including eliminating common backyard mosquito sources and utilizing EPA-approved repellent.”

Residents should take the following steps to minimize risk of contracting WNV:

- **Drain** standing water around your home, such as bird baths or pet dishes. Consider the use of BTI briquettes (or mosquito dunks) in standing water that cannot be eliminated.
- Be aware of mosquitoes during active times **between dusk and dawn**.
- **Defend** yourself by using insect repellent that contains DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus when outdoors. Use repellent as directed on label instructions.
- **Dress** in long-sleeves, pants, and socks when outside to reduce skin exposure.

Please visit the DCPH West Nile Virus website at www.dentoncounty.com/WNV for additional information including frequently asked questions, the latest news, and facts about WNV.

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