

June 30, 2015

For Immediate Release

Contact: Melissa Propp, RN, Surveillance Nurse 308-345-4223 nurse@swhealth.ne.gov

West Nile Virus: Positive Mosquito Reported in South Central Nebraska

Mosquitos in Webster County, located in south central Nebraska have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) according to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department has started to trap for mosquitos in Chase and Red Willow counties.

“We had negative results for West Nile Virus from our first trappings but are concerned that mosquito numbers will be increasing after our rains in southwest Nebraska,” explains Melissa Propp, Surveillance Nurse. “Last year we had a confirmed death from WNV in our health district and we want to help our residents protect themselves from WNV.”

Propp offered the following tips to prevent mosquito bites:

- ✓ Limit time outside from dusk till dawn
- ✓ Wear long-sleeves and keep your pants on
- ✓ Repair all holes in screens
- ✓ Dump stagnant water and keep your gutters clean
- ✓ Be sure to use insect repellent with DEET and repeat every four (4) hours

More information on West Nile Virus may be found at our web site www.swhealth.ne.gov or call the McCook office at 308-345-4223. SWNPHD is located at 404 West 10th Street – one block north of Arby’s. You can also follow us on Facebook.com/swnphd and Twitter@swpublichealth. Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department serves Chase, Dundy, Frontier, Furnas, Hayes, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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