OKC-COUNTY HEALTH CONFFIRMS THE FIRST HUMAN CASE OF WEST NILE VIRUS

Oklahoma City, Okla. – Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) experts confirm one human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) in Oklahoma County.

As we continue through summer, OCCHD Deputy Chief Operating Officer Tre’ Williams said, “Residents should be active by getting rid of any sources of stagnant water and always wear repellent containing DEET.”

Basics to reduce mosquito habitats: Empty buckets, flowerpots, wheelbarrows, and old tires from holding standing water. Empty and refill birdbaths and your pet’s outdoor water bowl daily.

For standing water sources that cannot be drained, OCCHD recommends microbial larvicides, commonly called “Mosquito dunks,” that kill mosquito larvae before they emerge as adults. They are available at hardware or home improvement stores.

Be sure to protect your home from invading mosquitoes by keeping window and door screens in good repair.

All residents are urged to use the 3-D’s and a “P” of mosquito safety:

1. DRAIN standing water on your property so mosquitoes won’t breed.
2. Use insect repellent that contains DEET on your clothes.
3. DRESS appropriately to protect from mosquitoes.
4. Protect – limit exposure to mosquito-induced environments.

West Nile symptoms include fever, headache, body aches, and sometimes a rash. The most susceptible to illness include infants, the elderly, and those with weakened immune systems. If symptoms are severe, health officials say to contact your doctor immediately.

*For more information on terms and different types of West Nile Virus infections: https://www.fightthebiteok.com/