

WEST NILE VIRUS

FACT SHEET

What is it?

West Nile Virus (WNV) is carried by infected mosquitoes that can bite and infect humans and make them sick.



Fight the Bite!

West Nile Virus
Information Line

1-800-975-4448

Dead Bird
Reporting Line

1-877-747-2243



Who is at Risk?

Everyone is at risk for infection. Those at highest risk of life threatening disease are over 50, or have weak immune systems from another illness.

Remember

- √ Most mosquitoes do not have WNV
- √ 80 percent of infected people have no symptoms and recover on their own.
- √ Of those infected, 1 in 150 can develop severe symptoms or even death.
- √ The best way to protect yourself is to Fight the Bite!

Fight the bite!

1. Prevent Bites

- √ Limit outdoor activities at dawn and dusk
- √ Use insect repellent with DEET, oil of lemon eucalyptus or picaridin when outdoors
- √ Long sleeves and pants can protect against bites

2. PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY AND HOME

- √ Change water in wading pools, pet dishes, and bird baths several times a week
- √ Install and repair screens on windows and doors

3. PAY ATTENTION

- √ Dump out standing water
- √ Cover trash cans and recyclables