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Denton County reports Eighth and Ninth West Nile Virus Human Cases

August 31, 2016 – Denton County Public Health (DCPH) is reporting its eighth and ninth human cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) for 2016 in Denton County. The 8th case is a resident of unincorporated Denton County near Ponder and was diagnosed with West Nile Fever. The 9th case is a resident of Hickory Creek and was diagnosed with West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease.

Chief Epidemiologist Juan Rodriguez stresses that residents can continue to reduce their risks of acquiring WNV. “Individuals can help prevent mosquito bites by draining standing water around their homes, dressing appropriately and using DEET or other EPA-approved repellents,” he states.

Residents should take the following steps to reduce their risk of getting WNV:

- **Drain** standing water around their homes to reduce mosquito breeding grounds. Consider use of BTI briquettes (or mosquito dunks) in water that cannot be drained, such as small ponds and drinking troughs.
- Be aware of mosquitoes during times that they are active, **Dawn**, **Daytime, Dusk** and evening hours.
- Apply an insect repellent that contains **DEET** (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide) to exposed skin and to clothing when outdoors. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also recommends Picaridin (KBR 3023).
- **Dress** in pants and long sleeves when outside and/or wear permethrin-treated clothing.

Please visit the DCPH West Nile Virus website (dentoncounty.com/WNV) for extensive information, including tips for reducing mosquitoes around the home, frequently asked questions, and printable flyers and posters.