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NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION NEWS RELEASE

Nevada State Health Division Announces Human Case of West Nile Virus in Nevada

Carson City – The Nevada State Health Division is reporting **one** human case associated with West Nile Virus (WNV). The individual is a Churchill County resident, over the age of 50 with the neuroinvasive, or more severe form of the illness.

Year to date, Nevada has a total of **two** laboratory confirmed human cases associated with West Nile Virus. The second case is a Clark County resident, over the age of 50 with the neuroinvasive form of the illness.

“While we are beginning to experience cooler evening temperatures in northern Nevada, mosquitoes infected with West Nile Virus continue to be in our environment. I cannot stress enough the importance of practicing preventive measures to reduce the chance of being bitten by mosquitoes,” said Tracey D. Green, MD, State Health Officer. “Remember to use mosquito repellent containing either DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, preferably in that order, wear long sleeve shirts, pants and socks, be aware that mosquitoes are most active during dusk and dawn, remove standing water from around your house and check to make sure the screens on your windows and doors fit properly.”

West Nile Virus most often is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes are WNV carriers that become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes can then spread WNV to humans and other animals when they bite. West Nile Virus is **NOT** spread through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person infected with the virus.

While there is no specific treatment for WNV infection, people who have been exposed to mosquitoes and experience symptoms of the more severe illness are encouraged to contact their health care provider immediately.

For more information about West Nile Virus, please access the following websites:

<http://health.nv.gov>

<http://agri.state.nv.us>



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