

## First Human Case of West Nile Virus Reported in Delta County

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Delta County Health Department is reporting the first confirmed human case of West Nile virus (WNV) this year. The individual is a female in her 80's.

Greg Rajnowski, Environmental Health Director states, "The first human case of West Nile confirmed in our county serves as an important reminder to prevent mosquito bites." Most people infected with WNV will have no symptoms. When present, WNV symptoms tend to include fever and flu-like illness. In rare cases, more severe illness and death can occur. While WNV can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe disease.

The table below provides current and historical data for the past five years of human cases of WNV identified in Delta County residents compared to Colorado as reported by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (updated 7/28/22).

Year	Total Cases		Hospitalized		Deaths	
	Delta	Colorado	Delta	Colorado	Delta	Colorado
2022	1	1	1	1	0	0
2021	18	175	10	112	1	11
2020	15	35	8	19	0	1
2019	33	122	12	51	2	8
2018	8	96	4	54	1	5

### To protect yourself:

- Use insect repellents when you go outdoors. Repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or para-menthane-diol products provide the best protection. For more information about insect repellents visit the EPA's information [webpage](#). Always follow label instructions.
- Limit outdoor activities at dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and socks in areas where mosquitoes are active. Spray clothes with insect repellent for extra protection.

### To mosquito-proof your home:

- Empty water from tires, cans, flowerpots, clogged gutters, rain barrels, birdbaths, toys, and puddles at least once every week.
- Install or repair screens on windows and doors.

For more information: <https://www.deltacounty.com/451/Animals-Insects>

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