



Town of Little Elm
100 West Eldorado Parkway
Little Elm, TX 75068
(214) 975-0406
www.littleelm.org

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Celso Martinez 972-623-8836

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Little Elm mosquito pool found to have West Nile Virus

LITTLE ELM (June 4, 2018) A trapping and surveillance check has revealed a positive result for the presence of the West Nile Virus in a mosquito pool in Little Elm, says Public Works Director Kevin Mattingly. The positive detection occurred last week.

Mosquito pool is the term used for a group of mosquitoes caught and tested out of a single trap. The positive test occurred at trap located within the Shell Beach Lift Station, in the area of Cottonwood Creek Park.

“Several mosquito traps have been set up around a number of locations in Town,” said Mattingly. “In the one at the water lift station within the Shell Beach area, a mosquito pool tested positive for West Nile Virus.”

Results from the other traps set up in different parts of Town have proven negative as of this time. Signs will be placed along Shell Beach to alert residents of the positive test.

Assistant Town Manager Joe Florentino supervises the Little Elm Emergency Management Program, which oversees and implements the Mosquito Management and Response Plan.

“There is no immediate danger,” said Florentino. “If residents take the appropriate actions, the chances of a human infection are minimized substantially.”

Taking a proactive approach can be very successful in limiting exposure to the virus, even when a positive has been identified. Officials strongly encourage residents to enact the “Four Ds” of prevention.

These include:

- **Drain** all standing water, and overturn containers, pots, and other areas where water can pool;
- **Dress** in light colored, long-sleeve and long pant leg clothing when outdoors;
- **DEET**-containing pesticides and repellents work best and are safe to use;
- **Dawn** and **Dusk** are when mosquitoes are most active and thus outdoor activity should be limited.

Mattingly says crews will continue to apply larvicides to mosquito breeding areas and conduct surveillance measures. But he emphasizes that residents’ efforts are the best line of defense against the disease.

“All citizens should be following the Four Ds, especially this year as we have more water than normal,” he said. “The Town will continue to be vigilant in our efforts to manage this situation.”

For more information please contact: Emergency Management at 972-377-1896, Health Services at 214-731-3276 and Public Works at 214-377-5556.

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ABOUT LITTLE ELM – Little Elm is one of the state’s fastest growing communities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town was incorporated in 1966, adopting the Council/Manager form of government. The population increased dramatically over the last several years, growing from under 4,000 in 2000 to over 30,000 today. Little Elm’s population exceeds the state average in education and income, and is increasingly trending younger and technologically proficient. The Town’s footprint is just over 21 square miles and boasts some 66 linear miles of shoreline within its boundaries.