



Town of Little Elm
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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Little Elm finds third mosquito pool showing WNV

LITTLE ELM (August 14, 2015) A third mosquito pool of trapped specimens has tested positive for the presence of the West Nile Virus in Little Elm, says Fire Chief Joe Florentino. "Mosquito pool" is the term used for a group of mosquitoes caught and tested out of a single trap. The term is not related to swimming or wading pools.

"We are constantly trapping and testing as part of the Mosquito Management and Response Plan," he said. "As part of that program, we have encountered the year's third incidence of the mosquito-borne disease."

Site of the third discovery is the area immediately around the intersection of Walker Lane and Waterside Drive. Little Elm deployed the Mosquito Management and Response Plan in late spring and has maintained it throughout the summer.

At this time, results from the other traps set up in different parts of Town have so far proven negative. Signs will be placed in the area surrounding Walker Lake and Waterside Drive to alert residents of the positive test.

"We're confident that there is no immediate danger of an outbreak, since at this time we have no confirmed human cases of the disease," he said. "However, residents should take the appropriate actions to minimizing their exposure."

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.

Florentino 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.

"Everyone should be following the Four Ds, no exceptions," he said. "We will continue our strongest 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.