



Elmore County

150 South 4th East
Mountain Home, ID 83647
Phone: (208) 587-2130
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2025

First Elmore County Location Tests Positive for West Nile Virus

Contact: Jason Kinley, Department Supervisor
Elmore County Pest Abatement
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West Nile virus was detected in mosquitoes collected in Elmore County, Idaho. “A positive sample has been collected from established surveillance sites throughout Elmore County,” said Jason Kinley, Supervisor of Elmore County Pest Abatement. He also said, “The first positive finding of the 2025 mosquito season suggests limited levels of virus circulation in Elmore County and does not warrant deviation from standard operational efforts.”

Kinley explained that the Elmore County Pest Abatement Department routinely sets dry ice-baited mosquito traps at 30 locations throughout Elmore County to monitor adult mosquito populations and the presence of vector-borne diseases such as West Nile virus. To date, the department has tested over 60 mosquito samples. The area where the mosquitoes were collected has been treated for both larval and adult mosquitoes.

Kinley said, “The public is encouraged to help reduce the mosquito population by eliminating standing water around homes and properties. Regularly dumping out and replacing horse and stock water supplies in troughs and tanks every 3-5 days is tremendously effective in reducing the numbers of mosquitoes around a home or property and limiting overuse of irrigation will also result in a reduced number of mosquitoes.” He offered the following suggestions to reduce the risk of exposure to West Nile virus:

DRAIN any standing water around homes and property. Any water that stands for longer than 3-5 days can produce mosquitoes. Regularly change and clean horse and stock water troughs.

DRESS appropriately when mosquitoes are most active. Mosquitoes are most active at dusk, early night hours, and at dawn. Light colored long sleeve shirts and pants are recommended.

DEFEND against mosquitoes by using an effective insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or 2-undecanone, making sure to follow the directions on the container. The best way to protect horses from WNV is by annual vaccination.

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The public is asked to please contact Elmore County Pest Abatement by calling 208-587-2304 or by email at mosquito.abatement@elmorecountyid.gov if a site is too large to be eliminated so it can be properly treated.

Additional information about mosquitoes and the diseases they carry can be found at:

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/health-wellness/diseases-conditions/west-nile-virus>

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/index.html>

Elmore County Pest Abatement

<https://elmorecounty.org/pest-abatement-district/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ECMAD>

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