



NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts: April Reiling, (972) 721-2777 or areiling@cityofirving.org
Claudia Garibay, (214) 662-9805 or cgaribay@cityofirving.org

First 2021 West Nile Virus Death Reported in Irving

(IRVING, TEXAS) — Dallas County Health and Human Services notified the City of Irving on Sept. 23 that an 83-year-old Irving resident died due to complications from West Nile Virus (WNV). The man, who resided in a neighborhood located in [IRV-32 Spray Zone](#), had underlying health conditions and began experiencing symptoms on Aug. 29. He was subsequently hospitalized on Aug. 31 and passed Sept. 3. Irving Code Enforcement will conduct ground spraying on Sept. 23 in a targeted area within Spray Zone-32 for the purpose of continued mitigation of the infected mosquito population.

“The City of Irving extends its condolences and prayers to the family, friends and neighbors of the Irving resident who recently passed from West Nile Virus,” said Irving Mayor Rick Stopfer. “I ask that everyone take precautions against being bit by mosquitoes, and use the Four D’s to protect yourself and your family.”

The city’s [Mosquito Control Program](#) monitors mosquitoes year-round and conducts surveillance and testing of mosquitoes using 57 trap locations across the city. The team sends 19 traps to Dallas County each week for testing, and if a WNV positive mosquito is trapped, then the team conducts ground spraying in the coinciding [spray zone area](#). The 2021 [infected mosquito treatment zones and schedule](#) is available online. When a WNV positive mosquito is confirmed, the city publishes ground spraying notifications to the impacted neighborhoods on NextDoor and the website.

Timeline of Mosquito Activity in Affected Spray Zone IRV32

Aug. 3 – Trapped and tested a positive WNV mosquito, sprayed the impacted zone the same evening

Aug. 23– Trapped mosquitoes and none tested positive for WNV

Sept. 14 – Trapped mosquitoes and none tested positive for WNV

MOSQUITO PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

Follow the Four D’S

The City of Irving advises residents to protect themselves from mosquito-transmitted diseases by following the Four D’s:

- Dusk/Dawn – the times of day to stay indoors.
- Dress – wear long sleeves and long pants when outdoors during these times.

- DEET – an ingredient to look for when purchasing and using insect repellent.
- Drain – minimize outside standing water so it does not become a mosquito breeding site.

Residents also are encouraged to call the city’s Mosquito Hotline — (972) 721-3755 — with tips on any stagnant water or mosquito activity in their neighborhoods or around the city.

Limiting Mosquito Populations

Mosquitoes must have standing water in which to begin their life cycle. Almost any vessel or area of standing water presents a potential “nursery” in which mosquitoes can develop. Residents are encouraged to follow these tips to eliminate mosquito-breeding areas from their homes and yards:

- Keep screens, windows and doors in good repair.
- Fix leaky outdoor faucets and sprinklers.
- Avoid overwatering lawns.
- Rinse and refill birdbaths, pet watering dishes, flowerpots and saucers or other vessels weekly to prevent stagnant water. If the container cannot be easily drained, use mosquito dunks to prevent breeding.

The City of Irving offers free mosquito dunks at Irving recreation centers, Heritage Senior Center and Irving City Hall.

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