



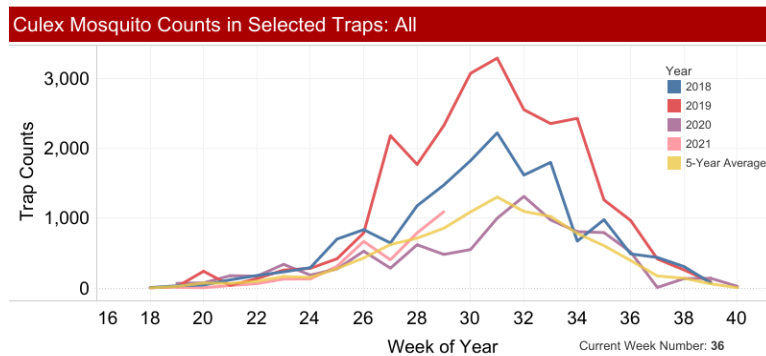
**MESA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEALTH**
Working Together for a Healthy Community



NEWS RELEASE

Date: September 3, 2011

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Mosquitoes test positive for West Nile virus

Mosquitoes from a single trap location in the zone east of Grand Junction have tested positive for West Nile virus.

The Grand River Mosquito Control District collected the mosquitoes on August 26, 2021. The types of mosquitoes that tested positive were identified as *Culex* species, which can transmit West Nile virus to people.

This is the first confirmed West Nile activity in mosquitoes in Mesa County this year. This is the time of year when activity typically peaks, so it's critical for residents to take precautions. The best way to avoid getting West Nile virus is to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. Increased outdoor activity can lead to increased exposure to mosquito bites so take some easy steps to protect yourself:

- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent effective against mosquitoes. Look for one that contains DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, 2-undecanone, or oil of lemon eucalyptus,
- Dress in long sleeves and pants when in areas where mosquitoes are active,
- Avoid being outdoors at dusk and dawn; this is when mosquitoes are most active,
- Drain and remove sources of standing water on your property.

Mesa County Public Health (MCPH) is committed to bringing information and data to our community in a way that is meaningful and easy to understand. MCPH continues to publish

Members of the media should call or text Amanda Mayle at (970) 697-4611 or visit health.mesacounty.us for more information.



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data related to mosquito activity on our website with a feature called the [Mosquito Monitor](#). The tool allows residents to monitor mosquito activity and therefore the potential risk of human West Nile virus infection.

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