



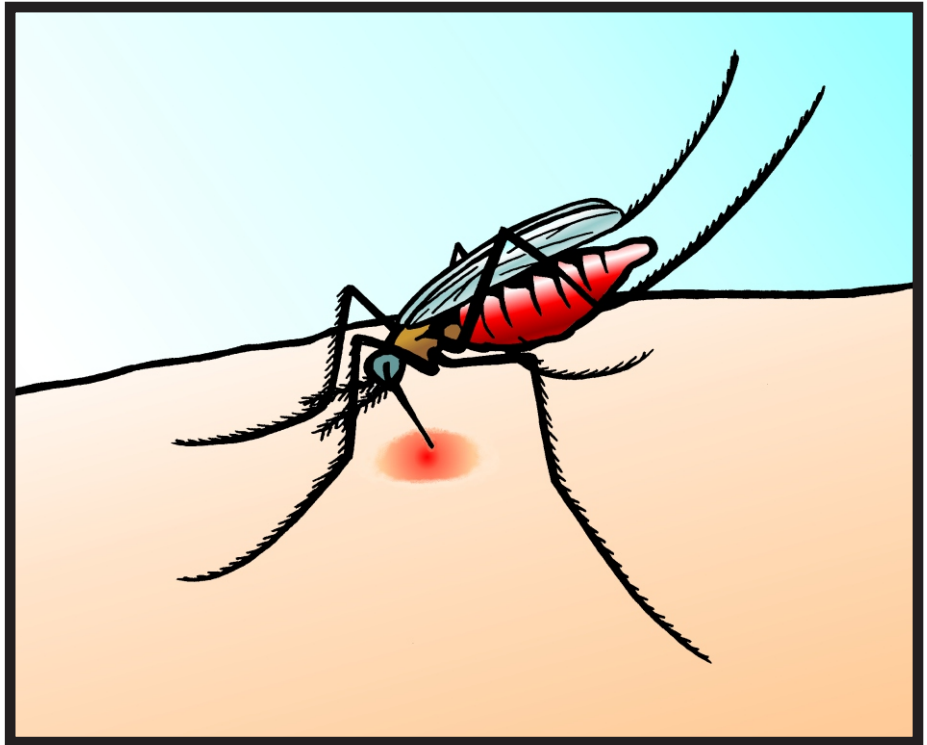
TOOLBOX

SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 32 - No 33 WEST NILE VIRUS

In these post pandemic days, it's important to remember other medical threats that are in our society. Historically, the West Nile Virus has been found in many areas of the eastern half of the United States. Now it has spread to the entire country. In 2024, there were a total of 1791 cases country-wide with 162 deaths recorded. Most people who become infected with the West Nile Virus will have either no symptoms or mild ones (fever, headaches, nausea, body aches, mild skin rashes or swollen lymph nodes). The cases are up this time of year with the mosquitoes out due to cool wet weather.



On rare occasions, infections can be severe and sometimes an illness known as encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain, can occur. The risk of severe illness and death is highest for people over 50 years old.

West Nile Virus can affect more than 130 species of birds and is carried in at least 36 types of mosquitoes. The infection was found in dogs, rabbits squirrels, chipmunks and over 15,000 horses nationwide.

Safety Tips:

1. Wear long sleeves and long pants. Loose clothing is better than tight.
2. Use repellents with 30% DEET. They last as long as 10-12 hours. Spray DEET repellent directly onto your clothes. Do not apply repellent to cuts, wounds or irritated skin.
3. Empty standing water from old tires, barrels, buckets, or other containers.

