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September 24, 2019

NEWS RELEASE

Number of West Nile Virus Cases in El Paso Rises to 15

Public health officials encourage mosquito bite prevention into fall season

EI PASO, Texas – A 15th case of West Nile virus has been recorded by the City of El Paso Department of Public Health. A man in his early 80’s with underlying medical conditions was confirmed to have contracted the virus.

“While the fall season is upon us, the weather is not cold enough to really make a difference when it comes to mosquito activity,” said Fernando Gonzalez, Lead Epidemiologist. “With more pleasant temperatures, residents may be spending more time outdoors and preventing mosquito-borne diseases is extremely important.”

The following is a table of the cases reported to the Department of Public Health so far this season:

	1.	Female	Late 70’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	2.	Female	Late 70’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
Deceased	3.	Female	Early 50’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	4.	Female	Early 30’s	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	5.	Male	Late 30’s	No Underlying Medical Conditions
Deceased	6.	Male	Early 80’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	7.	Male	Early 30’s	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	8.	Female	Mid 70’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	9.	Male	Early 80’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	10.	Female	Mid 70’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	11.	Male	Early 80’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	12.	Female	Early 30’s	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	13.	Male	Late 80’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
	14.	Male	Early 60’s	Underlying Medical Conditions
NEW	15.	Male	Early 80’s	Underlying Medical Conditions

The best way to avoid exposure to mosquito-borne diseases is to practice the “four Ds”:

- **DEET** - Use insect repellents that contain DEET when outdoors.
- **DRESS** - Wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors.
- **DUSK and DAWN** – Although mosquitoes associated with other diseases such as Zika can be active throughout the day; residents should take extra care during peak mosquito biting hours (from dusk to dawn) or consider avoiding outdoor activities during these times.
- **DRAIN** – Drain standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, and birdbaths.

You can also mosquito-proof your home by installing or repairing screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out. To report standing water or mosquito breeding call 3-1-1.

Please share - [Mosquito Prevention PSA](#)

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