PLEASE POST AND CIRCULATE TO BUILDING OCCUPANTS

Date: May 28, 2014
To: The University of Arizona Community
From: Harry McDermott, M.D., M.P.H., Executive Director, Campus Health Service
Steve Holland, Assistant Vice President for Risk Management Services
Subject: West Nile Virus – Fight the Bite

With the warm weather, comes the return of Tucson’s mosquito season and our reminder to the Campus Community to prevent West Nile Virus through Fight the Bite efforts.

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito borne virus endemic in Arizona mosquitoes since 2003, with the mosquito season peaking from May through October. In Arizona during 2013 there were 60 confirmed or probable human WNV cases and 4 fatalities reported. Pima County had 2 confirmed or probable cases.

Facilities Management prevents mosquito breeding on campus by treating outdoor areas of standing water with a safe mosquito larvicide. We ask University building managers and occupants to also help fight the bite by taking the following steps:

**KNOW**

West Nile Virus is Preventable

- Most people (4 out of 5) have no symptoms.
- Some people have mild symptoms that last a few days, such as fever, headache, tiredness, rash.
- A few people develop serious symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and/or disorientation, numbness and muscle weakness. Being 50+ years of age increases risk. Seek medical attention immediately.

Resources

- Pima County Health Department Hotlines: Human & horse case info: (520) 243-7797; Mosquito complaints & green pools: (520) 243-7999
- Arizona Department of Health
- CDC

Insect Repellents Work

- Choose an effective repellent such as DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus on exposed skin.
- Permethrin is for use on clothes, bed nets and camping gear, not on skin.
- Read and follow instructions on label.

**EDUCATE**

Print & Post

Risk Management WNV Links

- Campus Health WNV Flier
- Campus Health WNV Poster

**DO**

Report

- Standing water and mosquito concerns to your building manager or Facilities Management (520) 621-3000

Prevent indoor mosquito breeding

- Flush all plant saucers, lab sinks and floor drains twice per week.
- Check window & door screens/sweeps
- Dump all drinks in sink before trash disposal of cups and cans.
- Put a lid on garbage.

Wear

- Long sleeve shirts and pants whenever possible.

Wear insect repellent if outdoors between dusk & dawn

- Available at the Campus Health Pharmacy and other retailers.