

Disease surveillance



The SLCMAD collects mosquitoes from surveillance traps around Salt Lake City throughout the mosquito season. The mosquitoes get identified to species and sorted. Those that can spread mosquito-borne disease in SLC will get tested to determine if they are carrying any. SLCMAD uses a technique called PCR to test mosquitoes for pathogens.



CONTACT US

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OTHER RESOURCES:

- Salt Lake County Health Department
www.saltlakecounty.gov/health
- Utah Department of health
www.dhhs.utah.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov



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Mosquito- borne Disease



Mosquito-borne disease in Utah

Salt Lake City
Mosquito
Abatement District

www.slcmadutah.gov



MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE

WHAT IS A MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE?

Mosquitoes are known “vectors”. A vector is any organism that has the ability to spread and transmit pathogens (viruses, parasites, bacteria) from one host to another. A mosquito-borne disease is an illness that can be passed to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito.



MOSQUITOES ARE THE WORLD'S DEADLIEST ANIMAL AND RESPONSIBLE FOR NEARLY ONE MILLION HUMAN DEATHS EACH YEAR.

It spread to the United States in 1999 and first appeared at the Bronx Zoo in New York. Several of the zoo's bird species along with crows in the area were found

sick or already deceased. Several years later in 2003, it made its way to Utah.

Each year in Utah there are several human WNV cases reported. About 8 in 10 people with WNV infections show no symptoms and about 1 in 5 with infection will develop a fever along with headache, body aches, joint pain, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash. Many people recover, but fatigue and weakness can last for months. About 1 in 150 people can develop inflammation of the brain (encephalitis) or spinal cord (meningitis). Severe illness can occur in people of any age. Recovery from severe illness can take months and some effects may be permanent. About 1 in 10 people who develop severe illness affecting the central nervous system die.



Mosquito-borne disease



ST. LOUIS ENCEPHALITIS VIRUS & WESTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS VIRUS

Most people infected with St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLEV) and Western equine encephalitis virus (WEEV) do not have any symptoms, similar to WNV. If they do have an infection, they will get a fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, tiredness, and confusion. These viruses may cause encephalitis or meningitis.

There are no vaccines or specific medicine to treat WNV, SLEV, or WEEV. Rest, fluids, and over-the-counter pain medicine may help ease symptoms. Some patients may need to be hospitalized.

Protect yourself against mosquito bites using an EPA-approved insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants.

WHAT MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES ARE FOUND IN UTAH?

West Nile virus

St. Louis encephalitis virus

Western equine encephalitis virus

WEST NILE VIRUS

West Nile virus (WNV) was first detected in the West Nile district of Uganda in 1937 when a woman was showing signs of a fever.