



## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release  
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### *Mosquito Surveillance Detects West Nile Virus in Douglas, AZ*

COCHISE COUNTY, AZ – Mosquito surveillance conducted by the Cochise County Environmental Health Division in conjunction with ArboScientific, has detected a positive mosquito pool for West Nile Virus. A “pool” is defined as a group of mosquitos of the same species. WNV can be transmitted to humans and equines by the bite of an infected female *Culex* mosquito. The following measures are recommended to be adopted countywide.

Common symptoms of WNV infection include:

Headache, weakness, muscle and joint pain; gastrointestinal symptoms and rash

Severe symptoms include:

Paralysis, coma, and even death.

Symptom onset usually takes from 2-6 days after infection.

Groups at higher risk include:

- Children
- Elderly
- Immunocompromised individuals with chronic conditions

**Prevention is key! You can protect yourself by:**

- ✓ **Using EPA-approved mosquito repellent.**
- ✓ **Emptying containers that have standing water, like tires, pots, water bowls, etc.**

Cochise County Health and Social Services, together with the City of Douglas, is actively addressing the situation with care and urgency. We want to assure our community that your well-being is our top priority, and we will continue to provide timely updates as we move forward.