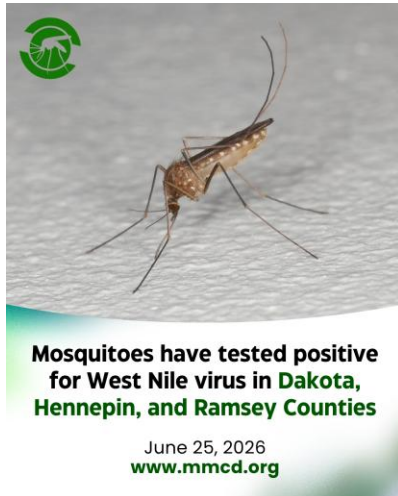


Thursday, June 25, 2026



Mosquitoes collected at 1 location in **Hennepin County**, 2 locations in **Ramsey County**, and 1 location in **Dakota County** have tested positive for West Nile virus. These samples were collected on June 17th and tested by MMCD Vector Ecologist, Dr. Jordan Mandli, using the RAMP method. These are the first positive samples we have received in 2026 and they are on schedule with when West Nile virus typically begins to appear.

Last year was a record year for West Nile virus in Minnesota with over 120 human cases (50 in the Twin Cities). Mosquitoes in the species *Culex tarsalis* are the most likely to transmit West Nile virus to humans and 2025 saw elevated numbers of *Culex tarsalis*, which is likely one of the causes of the record year. So far in 2026 *Culex tarsalis* mosquito numbers have been low compared to last year due to lower rainfall totals.

MMCD is being proactive to help prevent West Nile virus activity by doing additional surveillance and considering more treatments in areas where the risk appears to be elevated.

Residents are advised to take precautions by **wearing insect repellent, covering up exposed skin**, and **emptying out standing water**.

For more information visit [mmcd.org/west-nile-virus](https://www.mmcd.org/west-nile-virus)

**Metropolitan Mosquito Control District | [mmcd.org](https://www.mmcd.org)**

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