

## HIGH RISK POPULATIONS

People over 60 years of age are at the greatest risk for severe disease.

People with certain medical conditions can have elevated risk as well, such as:

- Cancer
- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Kidney Disease
- Organ transplant recipients

## LEARN MORE

To find more information on pandemic illnesses, visit one of the following:

[MINNEAPOLISMN.GOV/HEALTH/PREPAREDNESS](http://MINNEAPOLISMN.GOV/HEALTH/PREPAREDNESS)

[WWW.CDC.GOV](http://WWW.CDC.GOV)

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the Minneapolis Health Department at 612-673-2301 or [health@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:health@minneapolismn.gov).

People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626.

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### Minneapolis Health Department

250 S. Fourth St., Room 510

Minneapolis, MN 55415

Phone: 612-673-2301

Fax: 612-673-3866

[minneapolismn.gov/pandemic](http://minneapolismn.gov/pandemic)



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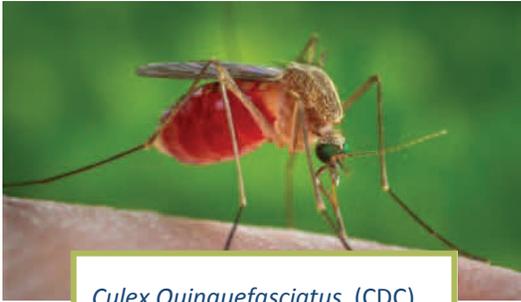


# WEST NILE VIRUS

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*Culex Quinquefasciatus* (CDC)

## What is West Nile Virus?

West Nile Virus is an infection that is most commonly transmitted to humans by mosquitos.

Mosquitos become infected when they feed on infected birds.

A small number of people (about 1 in 150) who get infected with West Nile virus develop a severe disease, called **West Nile encephalitis** or **West Nile meningitis** (inflammation of the brain or the area around the brain).

## SYMPTOMS

Most People will have no symptoms of West Nile Virus.

Roughly 1 in 5 people who are infected will experience:

- Fever
- Headache
- Tiredness
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Rash
- Loss of appetite
- Swollen lymph glands

Some people (Less than 1%) will develop a serious neurologic illness.

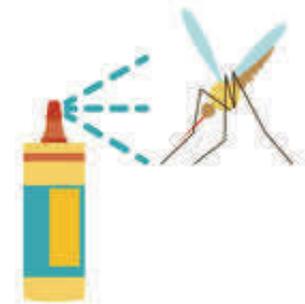
## TREATMENT

There is no medication or vaccination for West Nile Virus; however, precautions and prevention techniques can lower your chance of infection.

## PREVENTION

### Prevent mosquito bites

- Use insect repellent when you are outside
- Wear clothing that covers exposed skin on your arms and legs
- Take extra care during peak biting hours (between dusk and dawn)



### Mosquito-proof your home

- Install or repair screens on windows and doors
- Empty containers of standing water