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MEDIA RELEASE
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CHRISTIAN COUNTY MOSQUITOS TEST POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE VIRUS MOSQUITO VECTOR REPORT

Taylorville, IL - Christian County has their first West Nile Virus (WNV) positive mosquito sample of the 2026 season.

Mosquitoes collected on July 20th in Taylorville, Illinois were tested by Environmental Health staff on July 22nd in the laboratory at the Christian County Health Department, where the confirmatory analysis was conducted. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), a county is considered positive for WNV when a mosquito, bird, horse, or human tests positive for the virus.

According the weekly WNV report released by IDPH, there have been no human cases of WNV in the state in the 2026 season.

The recent warm, humid temperatures have created ideal conditions for mosquito populations in our area. "Our Environmental Health staff conducts mosquito surveillance throughout the season so we can identify West Nile virus activity early and keep the public informed," said Dr. Chad Anderson, Public Health Administrator. "This surveillance, combined with community efforts to reduce mosquito breeding and prevent bites, is an important part of protecting public health."

The Christian County Health Department will continue to monitor and test mosquitoes for WNV throughout the county. Remember reducing mosquito-breeding areas can help reduce your chance of contacting this virus. If you have any questions regarding West Nile Virus or any disease vectors, please contact your local health department or us at 217-824-4113.