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NEWS RELEASE

Three New Cases of West Nile Virus Confirmed

Rainy forecast increases potential for mosquito breeding, infection

EL PASO, Texas – The City of El Paso Department of Public Health (DPH) has confirmed three additional West Nile virus (WNV) cases in the area. The 8th case is a woman in her mid-70's, the 9th case is a man in his early-80's and the 10th case is a woman in her mid-70's. All have underlying medical conditions.

This news comes just two weeks after the DPH reported two West Nile virus-related deaths and as the region's weather forecast calls for rain over the next several days.

"We need our community to be ready to tip and toss items after it rains so that we don't create more breeding opportunities for mosquitoes. These mosquitoes can carry diseases and so we need to keep their numbers as low as possible," said Fernando Gonzalez, Lead Epidemiologist.

The following is a table of the cases reported to the DPH so far this season:

	1.	Female	Late 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	2.	Female	Late 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
Deceased	3.	Female	Early 50's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	4.	Female	Early 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
	5.	Male	Late 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
Deceased	6.	Male	Early 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
	7.	Male	Early 30's	No Underlying Medical Conditions
NEW	8.	Female	Mid 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions
NEW	9.	Male	Early 80's	Underlying Medical Conditions
NEW	10.	Female	Mid 70's	Underlying Medical Conditions

The best way to avoid exposure to mosquito-borne diseases is to practice the "four Ds":

- **DEET** - Use insect repellents that contain DEET when outdoors.
- **DRESS** - Wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors.
- **DUSK and DAWN** – Although mosquitoes associated with other diseases such as Zika can be active throughout the day; residents should take extra care during peak mosquito biting hours (from dusk to dawn) or consider avoiding outdoor activities during these times.
- **DRAIN** – Drain standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, and birdbaths.

You can also mosquito-proof your home by installing or repairing screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out. To report standing water or mosquito breeding call 3-1-1.

Please share - [Mosquito Prevention PSA](#)

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