

## GRAND FORKS MOSQUITO CONTROL



## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM WEST NILE VIRUS

West Nile virus (WNV) is an infection transmitted by mosquitoes. The mosquito most common for transmitting this virus is one that is widespread throughout the Grand Forks region. This mosquito does not discriminate. People of all ages are susceptible to WNV infection, but the elderly are at higher risk for developing the more severe form of this disease (neuroinvasive illness). Children infected with WNV generally

show no symptoms or may have a mild fever.





## **Risk factors for West Nile virus:**

- Time of year The majority of WNV cases occur from July September.
- Geographic region The Dakotas have reported some of the highest cases per capita in the United States.
- Time spent outdoors not wearing protective clothing and mosquito repellent If you work or spend a lot of time outdoors (golfing, gardening, hunting, etc.), you're at a higher risk of being bitten by mosquitoes.
- Proximity If you live in an area where WNV has already been identified or near mosquito larval habitat.
- If you have a weakened immune system.

## The best way to prevent West Nile virus infection is to avoid mosquito bites.

- Use mosquito-repellant products containing DEET.
- Wear long sleeves and pants.
- Eliminate any standing water from your property, such as trash bins, plant saucers, rain gutters, buckets, etc.

The mosquito most common for transmitting this disease generally stays close to the site it hatched from. Don't let it be a container or rain gutter from your own property.

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If you have any questions or concerns relating to mosquito control visit our website at www.gfmosquito.com