

# Dept. of Health Services: West Nile Virus confirmed in horse in Dunn County

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The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has confirmed that a horse in Dunn County, Wisconsin, has tested positive for [West Nile virus](#). The positive test is a sign that mosquitoes infected with West Nile virus are present in Wisconsin and can transmit the virus to people and other animals.

The horse is the first reported West Nile virus infection in the state this year. Currently, no human cases of West Nile virus have been reported in 2023. DHS has monitored the spread of West Nile virus since 2001. An average of 17 cases of West Nile virus are reported among Wisconsin residents each year. West Nile virus infections in humans have been reported from June through October; however, most people with West Nile virus report becoming ill in August and September.

“The positive test in an animal is an important reminder to take steps to protect yourself from mosquito bites and potential disease,” said State Health Officer Paula Tran. “I urge Wisconsinites to continue to “fight the bite” and follow our tips to avoid illnesses spread by mosquitoes. This should include applying bug spray before they head outside and removing standing water in bird baths and other places around their homes to eliminate mosquito breeding sites.”

[View the entire news release.](#)