

COLLIN COUNTY EPIDEMIOLOGY

Spring 2017



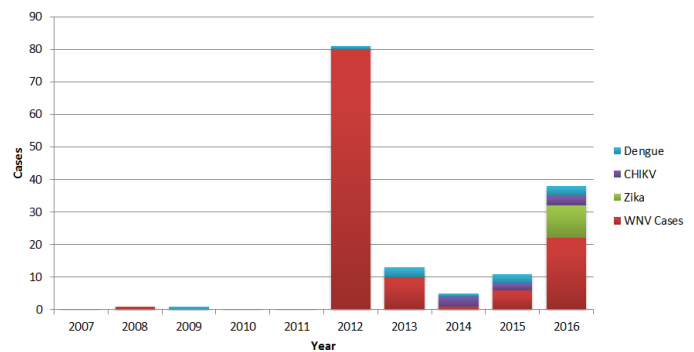
Collin County Health Care Services
825 N. McDonald St. Suite 130
McKinney, Texas 75069
www.collincountytx.gov

Mosquitos —They're Coming!

It is about that time of year again when we start seeing mosquitos. This also happens to be the best time of year to start fighting those unwanted biters.

West Nile Virus (WNV) has been occurring in our community for a number of years now. Other mosquito-borne viruses such as Zika Virus, Chikungunya Virus (CHIKV), and Dengue Virus, currently cannot be locally-acquired in North Texas, meaning the mosquitos here do not carry these viruses. Collin County Health Care Services aims to protect our residents from WNV and continues to implement control measures to prevent the mosquitos here from catching Zika Virus, CHIKV, and Dengue Virus.

Collin County Arbovirus Cases



You can assist Collin County in protecting the community by completing an assessment of your own home.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dump standing water | <input type="checkbox"/> Pick up trash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drain flower pot dishes | <input type="checkbox"/> Dispose of unused tires or drill holes in them |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drain and refill dog bowls | <input type="checkbox"/> Unclog gutters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for leaks in pipes | <input type="checkbox"/> Wipe around the top of flower pots with a bleach wipe |



“The Stomach Bug” - What is it really?

Many people may have experienced “the stomach bug” at least once in their life, but what is it that is making them sick? The most likely culprit of this illness is Norovirus.

Norovirus causes inflammation in the stomach and/or intestines which commonly causes diarrhea, vomiting, nausea and stomach pain. After you are exposed to Norovirus it takes about 12—48 hours to develop symptoms.

People become infected with it by eating food or drinking liquids contaminated with Norovirus or by coming in contact with someone who has Norovirus.

Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention most Norovirus outbreaks occur between November and April in the U.S.

To prevent Norovirus infection follow these recommendations:

- Wash your hands with soap and water, especially after going to the restroom and changing diapers.
- Wash produce before preparing or eating them.
- Cook seafood thoroughly before eating.
- If you are sick, do not prepare food for others.
- Clean and disinfect contaminated surfaces.
- Wash laundry thoroughly.
- Make sure to wear rubber gloves while handling soiled items and wash your hands after.

Norovirus can stay in your stool for up to 2 weeks after you feel better. Continue to practice all control measures even after you start to feel better to help prevent your friends and family from becoming sick.