

Bird in El Dorado County had West Nile virus

A Western Scrub Jay found earlier this month in El Dorado Hills has tested positive for West Nile virus.

This is the first confirmed positive result this year in the county. There have been no human cases in 2014.

West Nile virus is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes pick up the virus when they feed on infected birds. The illness is not spread from person-to-person.

Most people infected with West Nile virus show no symptoms. However, some people may experience high fever, severe headache, tiredness and/or a stiff neck which may last several days to several weeks. The most serious cases of West Nile virus infection can lead to encephalitis, an inflammation of the brain, which can be fatal.

Report dead birds and tree squirrels to 877.968.2473.