



Public Health Advisory: Enhanced Surveillance for St. Louis Encephalitis Virus

October 14, 2025

Amarillo Public Health (APH) received a report that a mosquito pool in Randall County tested positive for St. Louis Encephalitis Virus (SLEV). The mosquito pool testing was completed by Amarillo Environmental Health (AEH) in partnership with the Texas Department of State Health Services and was reported at the beginning of October. APH has not currently received any report of positive SLEV cases in humans.

SLEV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito and is clinically similar to West Nile Virus (WNV). Patients might experience fever, headache, nausea, vomiting and tiredness, and some others may develop neuroinvasive disease. SLEV is not transmitted from person-to-person, except rarely by blood transfusion.

Testing mosquitoes serves as a valuable first step in determining what types of mosquito-borne illnesses might be affecting community members in Amarillo and the surrounding areas. AEH works diligently every year to test mosquito pools and provide reports from their surveillance. Given this positive, APH would like to encourage providers to test for SLEV and WNV as well as other arboviral conditions when diagnosing a patient with relevant symptoms.

Please note the second page of this advisory for information on Human Arbovirus examples and testing locations.

If you have any questions about testing for SLEV, please contact the Amarillo Public Health Communicable Disease Program at publichealthcd@amarillo.gov or 806-378-6353.

For more information on SLEV:

- [About St. Louis Encephalitis | St. Louis Encephalitis Virus | CDC](#)

Thank you,
Todd Bell, MD
Health Authority

City of Amarillo Department of Public Health

Amarillo Area Public Health Board
850 Martin Road, Amarillo, TX 79107
(806) 378-6300
amarillopublichealth.org