

The Office of Safety and Risk Management welcomes you to Grambling State University. My office is located in the Facilities Management Building, 100 Facilities Drive.

This brochure contains general safety information which may prove helpful to you throughout the year. All persons must constantly be aware of the need for office security, which includes protecting office equipment, personal items (such as purses and cell phones), and sensitive personnel documents. By policy, you are required to immediately report any loss or theft of property to the University Property Control and Receiving Department (extension 2449), University Police Department (extension 2222) and Safety and Risk Management (extension 3174). These departments will assist you in completing the necessary documentation and filing of a claim for replacement items. If needed, they will also provide you and your staff with training on office security and property management.

**FOR ASSISTANCE,  
CALL 3174  
or email  
austinj@gram.edu**

## BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Bloodborne pathogens are infectious materials in blood that can cause disease in humans, including hepatitis B and C and human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV. Workers exposed to these pathogens risk serious illness or death.

To protect its workers, Grambling State University:

- Has established an exposure control plan to eliminate or minimize employee exposures.
- Uses engineering controls to isolate or remove the bloodborne pathogen hazard from the workplace.
- Has enforced work practice controls that reduce the likelihood of exposure by changing the way a task is performed. They include appropriate procedures for hand washing, sharps disposing, lab specimen packaging, laundry handling, and contaminated material cleaning.
- Has provided personal protective equipment such as gloves, gowns, and masks. Employers must clean, repair, and replace this equipment as needed.
- Uses labels and signs to communicate hazards. The standard requires warning labels affixed to containers of regulated waste, refrigerators and freezers, and other containers used to store or transplant blood or other potentially infectious materials. Employers also must post signs to identify restricted areas.

## WEST NILE VIRUS

West Nile Virus (WNV) is an infectious disease that first appeared in the United States in 1999. Infected mosquitoes spread the virus that causes it. People who contract WNV usually have no symptoms or mild symptoms. Those with symptoms may have a fever, headache, body aches, skin rash or swollen lymph glands.

If West Nile virus enters the brain, however, it can be deadly. It may cause inflammation of the brain, called [encephalitis](#), or inflammation of the tissue that surrounds the brain and spinal cord, called [meningitis](#).

Older people are most at risk. There are no specific vaccines or treatments for human WNV disease. The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent [mosquito bites](#):

- Use insect repellent
- Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets or barrels
- Stay indoors between dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active
- Use screens on windows to keep mosquitoes out



## FAQs – Protect Yourself

### How Can I Protect Myself?

- When outdoors, wear a mosquito repellent containing 20-30 % DEET for adults and no more than 10% for children. Do not use repellent containing DEET on children under 3 years of age. Follow the label's instructions carefully, especially when applying to children. Wash all skin and clothing when returning indoors to remove insect repellent.
- Do not spray repellent in enclosed areas.
- Only adults should apply repellent on a child.
- Spray repellent on your hands and then apply to your face.
- Only apply repellent to exposed skin and clothing.
- After returning indoors, wash treated skin with soap and water.
- Do not use repellent under clothing.
- Wash treated clothing before wearing it again.
- Do not apply repellent over cuts, wounds, sunburn or irritated skin.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants when outdoors for long periods of time.
- Avoid perfumes and colognes when outdoors for extended periods of time.
- Remember, electromagnetic and ultrasound devices and Vitamin B are not effective in preventing mosquito bites.

## FAQs – Your Role in Prevention

### Where do mosquitoes breed?

There are about 60 different species of mosquitoes in Louisiana. They usually hatch in containers near homes and do not fly very far.

Mosquitoes lay their eggs in stagnant water around the home. Weeds, tall grass, shrubbery and discarded tires also provide an outdoor home for adult mosquitoes. By eliminating places for mosquitoes to breed, we can go a long way to prevent West Nile virus.

### Is there a treatment or vaccine?

There is no specific treatment for West Nile virus infection, or a vaccine. While most people fully recover from the virus, in some severe cases, hospitalization may be needed and death can occur.

### Is a woman's pregnancy at risk if she gets West Nile Virus?

There is no documented evidence that a pregnancy is at risk due to infection with West Nile virus.

### Besides mosquitoes, can I get West Nile Virus directly from other insects or ticks?

Infected mosquitoes are the primary source for West Nile virus. Although ticks infected with West Nile virus have been found in Asia and Africa, their role in the transmission and maintenance of the virus is uncertain. However, there is no information to suggest that ticks played any role in the cases identified in the US.

### Where else has West Nile Virus been found?

Prior to 1999, no West Nile virus cases had been reported in the US. During the 1999 encephalitis outbreak, there were 62 human cases and seven deaths. In 2000, there were 21 diagnosed cases and two deaths. However, many infected people showed mild flu-like symptoms or no symptoms at all. In 2001, there were 66 diagnosed cases and 9 deaths.



# OFFICE OF SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT



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