LUBBOCK, Texas - All the wet weather Lubbock has been experiencing has created a perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes. This comes just a day after the first West Nile case was confirmed, and officials say they expect that number to increase.

"Don't panic. You should be concerned with the elderly and the very young, but the sky is not falling as it's just mosquitoes," said Steve Presley, chairman of the Department of Environmental Toxicology at Texas Tech University.

However, Presley said residents should still take plenty of precautions, as there have been mosquitoes in the area that have tested positive for the disease.

"We have found significant numbers of mosquitoes in the south and west of Lubbock that tested positive for the West Nile virus," said Presley. "About 10 to 15 out of the millions that we collect."

Mosquito season is now in full swing, and Presley warns people to be on the lookout for at least another month.

"Mosquitoes weren't really a problem during the drought months, but now we are going to see a lot more," said Presley. "Especially now that next week is going to be so hot, and we will have all this water on the ground."

He says the best way to protect yourself is to follow the 4 Ds - use repellant with DEET, drain standing water, stay inside dusk and dawn, and wear plenty of long sleeve clothing. Vector Control has increased the number of sprayings throughout the city, but if you do see any clusters of mosquitoes, you are encouraged to reach out to them HERE.
Recent rain adding to West Nile problem

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