PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM WNV!

- Prevent mosquito bites — apply insect repellent with EPA-registered active ingredients DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus before you go outside. Be sure to follow label directions.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and insect repellent if spending time outside at DAWN and DUSK. WNV-carrying mosquitoes are most active at those times.
- Install DOOR and window screens, and repair any ripped or torn screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- DUMP and DRAIN standing water around your yard (WNV mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water). Change water in pet dishes, birdbaths, and wading pools at least once a week. Keep gutters free from debris.
- Contact your local mosquito and vector control agency if you are being bothered by mosquitoes where you live or work.

HOW IS CALIFORNIA WORKING TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF WEST NILE VIRUS?

California’s comprehensive WNV surveillance program incorporates more than dead bird testing. Mosquitoes and sentinel chickens are also tested for WNV. Blood from human blood donors is also screened. All of this information helps local agencies know where they need to focus their mosquito control efforts to reduce the risk of people getting infected by WNV.

The California West Nile Virus Surveillance Program is a collaboration between the California Department of Public Health, mosquito and vector control agencies, local health departments, and the University of California, Davis.

Thank you for helping to track and prevent West Nile virus in California
www.westnile.ca.gov
1-877-WNV-BIRD
(1-877-968-2473)

Agencies and associations distributing this brochure may add their contact information in this box. (Copyright© 2018 CDPH)

Dump out all standing water in your yard.
West Nile virus (WNV) is a common mosquito-borne virus in the United States. WNV was first detected in California in 2003 and is now established throughout the state. WNV transmission to people occurs most often in summer and early fall when temperatures are warm and mosquitoes are active. This virus can make people sick and can lead to death.

Many types of birds carry WNV and can die from infection. This makes them good indicators of where WNV is active.

If you find a dead bird, please report it to the WNV and Dead Bird Hotline toll-free at 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473) (available from mid-April to mid-October) or by filling out a report online at www.westnile.ca.gov (available year-round). If the bird meets the criteria for testing, someone will contact you to arrange a pickup. All dead bird reports are useful, even if some birds cannot be tested.

Yes. WNV can cause severe illness in horses and even death. Symptoms include stumbling, muscle twitching, and reduced appetite. A WNV vaccine for horses is available and strongly recommended.

A dog or cat may occasionally get WNV, but dogs and cats usually do not become sick. Consult your veterinarian if you are concerned about your pet.