

Preventing West Nile Virus

The West Nile virus naturally infects many different species of birds and can be spread to humans and other animals by mosquito bites.

Prevention & Protection

- Get rid of standing water; empty, remove, cover, or turn upside down any receptacle that would hold water.
- Make sure air conditioner condensation drains
- Keep downspouts and gutters cleared of debris and drain flat roofs
- Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito eating fish
- Change water or scrub vases holding flowers or cuttings and water in bird baths twice each week
- Fill or drain low areas on your property that hold water for longer than 4 to 7 days
- Wear mosquito repellent with DEET
- Avoid being outdoors during peak mosquito activity periods and cover up with long sleeves and long pants when you are outside
- Educate yourself by visiting the West Nile-related web page at:
<http://new.dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/faq/category70>