

# The Animal Control Officer Our First Line of Detection



## West Nile Virus & Exotic Newcastle Disease

Presented by: Cynthia Spears

Veterinary Public Health-Rabies Control Program

323-730-3723 or 877-747-2243 Rabies Hotline

# Our Objectives

- 👉 **Inform**
- 👉 **Detect**
- 👉 **Protect**
- 👉 **Prevent**



Owls

Ravens

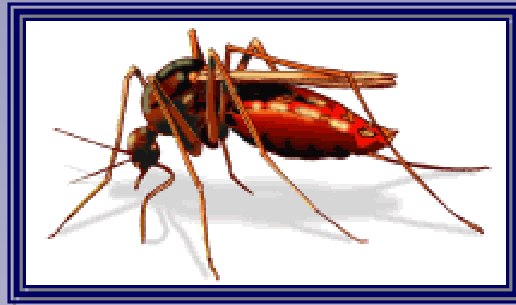


# West Nile Virus



Crows

**The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed that a woman in Los Angeles County, contracted WNV *NBC News* 9/11/02. This is the first known case in California.**



**The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services reported a second case, just after the first one. The patient, from Texas, became ill a day after arriving in Los Angeles. It is likely the virus was obtained in Texas.**

# West Nile Virus Cases

States reporting cases of West Nile virus in animals and humans in 2002:



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Los Angeles Times



# West Nile Virus Suspect



**This bird (crow) appears to have died for no apparent reason. There are no ants or signs of decay. This is a West Nile Virus suspect.**



# What types of birds are affected most by West Nile Virus?



**Crows**



**Blue Jays**



**Hawks**

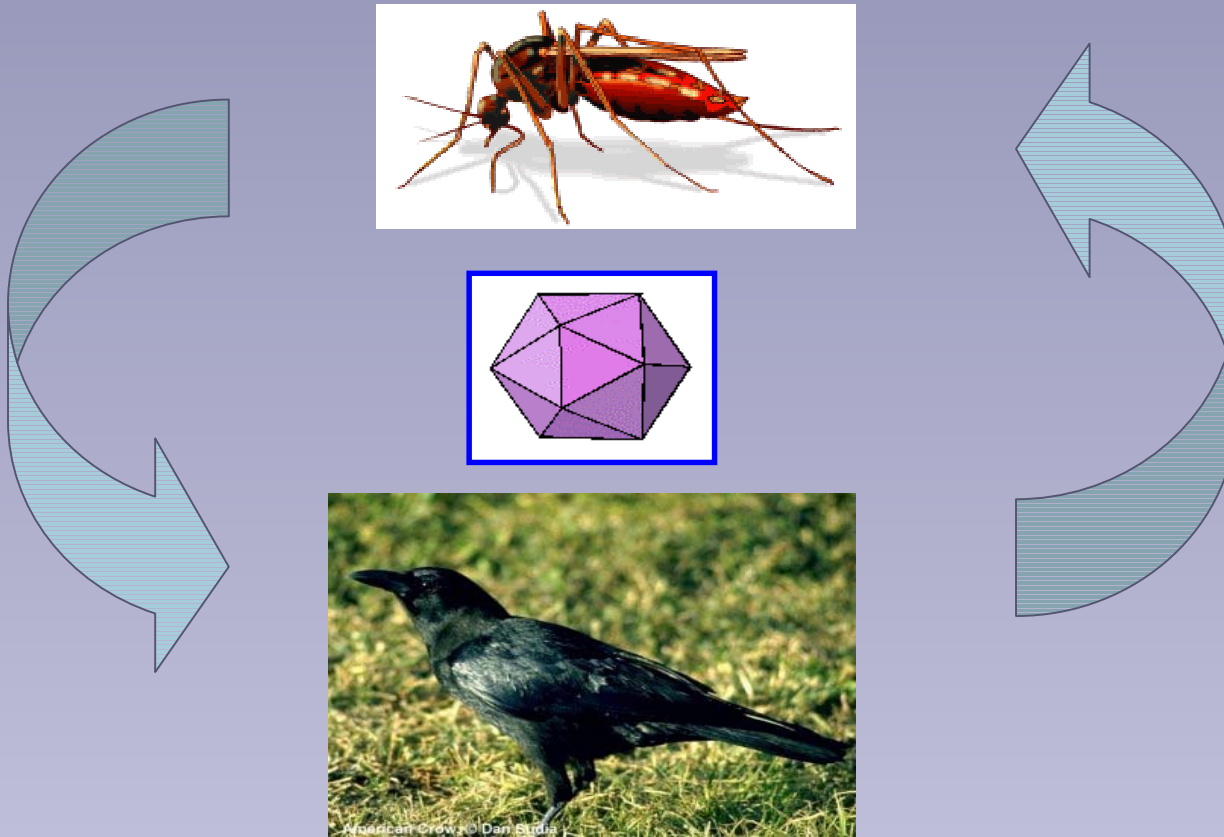


**Owls**



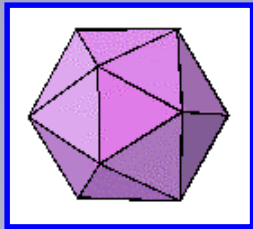
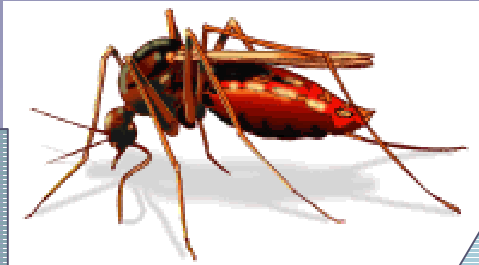
# How is West Nile Virus spread?

## West Nile Virus Cycle mosquito/bird

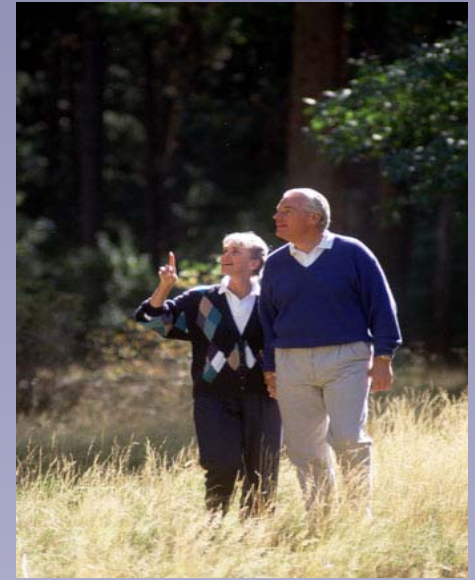


**Normal cycle**

# West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle



**Normal Cycle**



**Dead end host**



**Dead end host**

# What area is West Nile most likely to be found?



**Mosquitoes are vectors (carriers).**

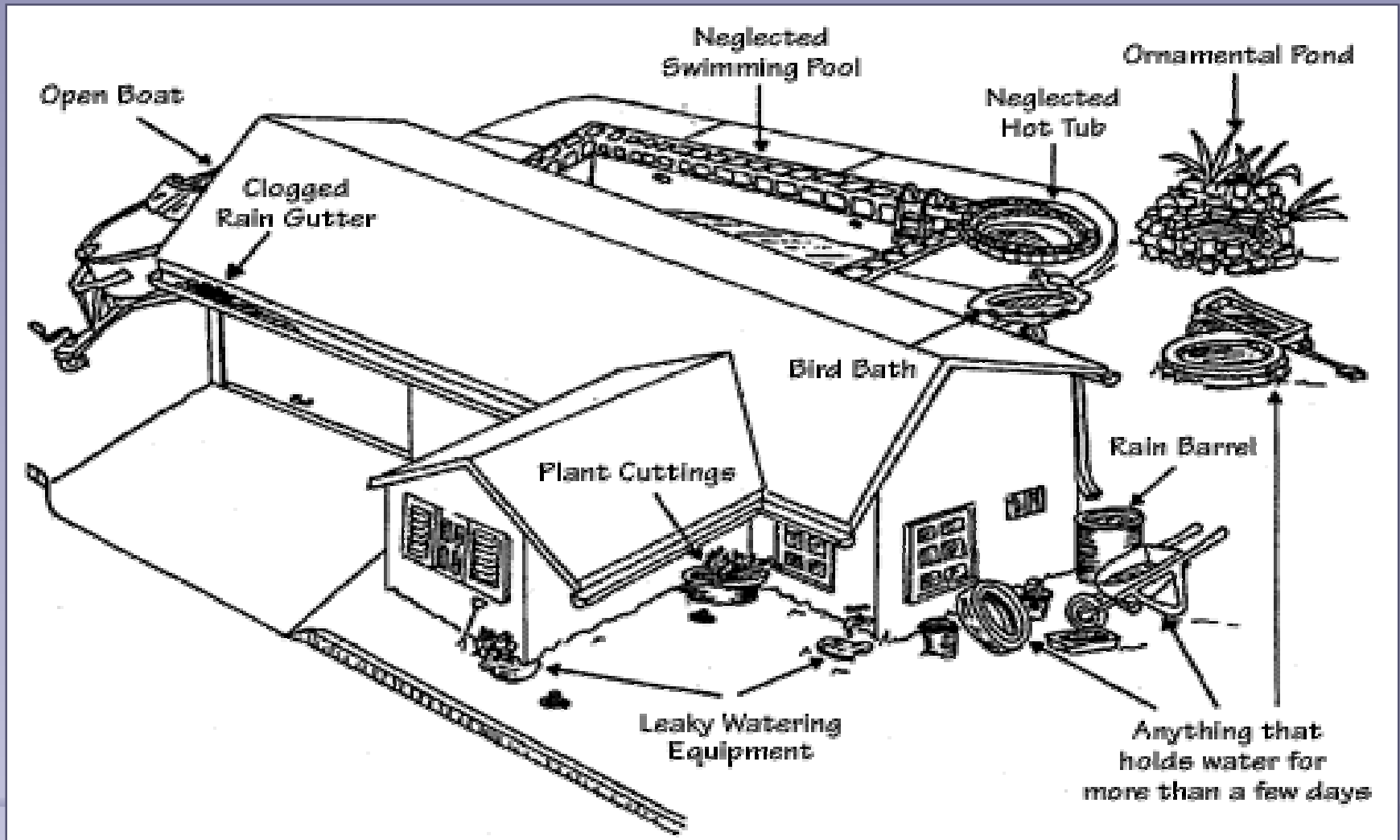


**Stagnant water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.**

**Mosquitoes will breed around anything that holds water for more than a few days.**



# Other common places mosquitoes can find stagnant water.



# What do I do if I come across a bird that may be a West Nile suspect.

- Inspect the specimen to make sure there are no ants or signs of decay.
- If there are no ants or signs of decay, double bag the specimen.
- Avoid direct physical contact when collecting the specimen.
- Use gloves or a plastic bag to collect the specimen.
- The specimen should be taken back to the shelter as soon as possible.
- The information is to be written on the Disease Surveillance form and faxed to Veterinary Public Health at 323-731-9208 or 323-735-2085.
- The information should include the type of bird, date of death and the location where it was found and an accurate phone number.

# What do I tell the public if they call in for a dead bird pick-up?

- Take the information from the person calling in and write it on a disease report form.
- The information should include the type of bird, date of death, and where it was found. Make sure the contact phone number is accurate.
- Have the person inspect the specimen to make sure there are no ants or signs of decay.
- Tell them to **avoid direct physical contact** with the specimen.

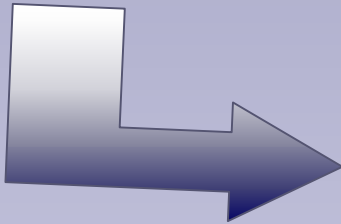


# **What do I tell the public if they call in for a dead bird pick-up?**

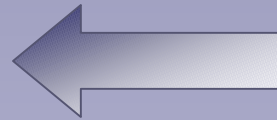
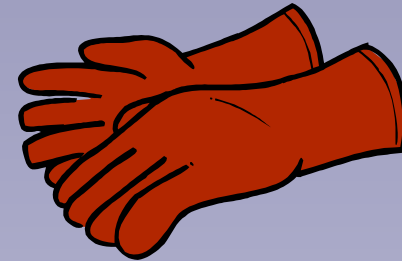
- ☞ If the specimen is in good condition, have them use a plastic bag or gloves to handle the specimen, put it in a plastic bag and store it in a cool place.**
- ☞ After instructing the person on how to preserve the specimen, fax the form immediately to Veterinary Public Health at 323-731-9208 or 323-735-2085.**

# Preserving a West Nile Specimen

Put specimen in a plastic bag.



Avoid direct contact with the specimen.



Store specimen in a cool place.

# Form Disease Surveillance



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH AND RABIES CONTROL PROGRAM

## ANIMAL DISEASE/DEATH REPORTING FORM

SUSPECTED DISEASE/CONDITION BEING REPORTED: \_\_\_\_\_

### ANIMAL INFORMATION

**Type of Animal Involved:** Domestic pet \_\_\_\_ Livestock \_\_\_\_ Wild animal \_\_\_\_  
Exotic \_\_\_\_ Zoo animal \_\_\_\_

**Number of Animals:** One \_\_\_\_ Multiple (give number) \_\_\_\_

**Species of Animal:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Other Identifying Information:**

Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_  
Sex \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_  
Age \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of onset of Condition:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Death(s), if applicable:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **REPORTING PERSON/VETERINARIAN INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clinic/Location Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **ANIMAL OWNER (if owned) INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **ANIMAL LOCATION (if different from owner's residence):**

Premise owner: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
or location description: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

### **HISTORY AND EXAMINATION RESULTS:**

This form is to be filled out as complete as possible whenever there is a call regarding a dead bird or an officer brings in a dead bird from the field.

The information should include: type of bird, date of death and the location, where it was found. Make sure the contact number is accurate.

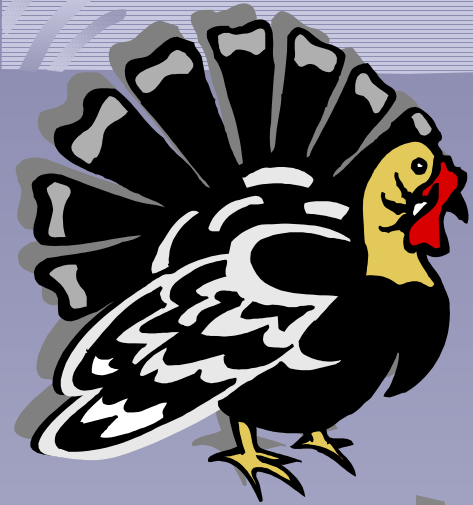
# What precautions can I take to protect myself?



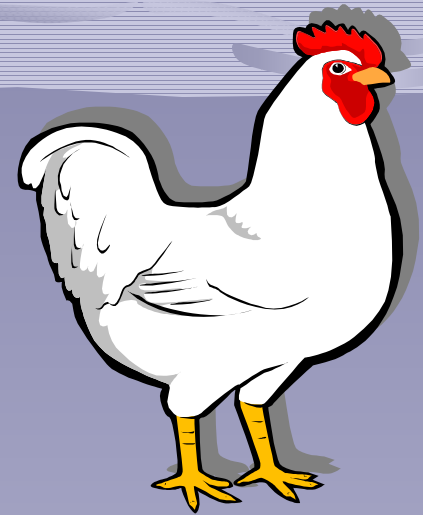
Simply spraying your uniform will keep the mosquitoes away.

Insect repellents that contain DEET is the most effective against mosquitoes.

Repellents containing 23.8% DEET provide an average of 5 hours complete protection.



**Turkey**



**Chicken**

# EXOTIC NEWCASTLE DISEASE



**Exotic Bird**



**Duck**

# **What is Exotic Newcastle Disease?**

**Exotic Newcastle Disease is a serious, highly contagious viral disease of poultry and other birds. This disease causes high rates of sickness and death in birds, especially chickens. In some cases, birds may not appear sick, but carry and spread the disease to other birds. The spread of this disease can have devastating effects on our economy. There is no effective cure.**



# What types of birds or fowl does this disease affect?

- ☞ Chickens
- ☞ Turkeys
- ☞ Ducks
- ☞ Parrots
- ☞ Other exotic birds



# *Stop and Observe*



- ❧ **If you arrive at a property and there is a quarantine sign, you should check with the other agency before entering.**
- ❧ **If you arrive at a property that you suspect may have chickens or other types of birds, before entering you should check for the following signs that may indicate the presence of Exotic Newcastle disease:**

# Signs of Exotic Newcastle include:

- ☞ **Dead birds**
- ☞ **Sick birds**
- ☞ **Watery diarrhea on the ground**

If any of these signs are present, **do not** enter the property. Call your supervisor immediately and inform him or her of the situation.

# Signs of Exotic Newcastle Disease

**DO NOT ENTER THE PROPERTY!**



# **Steps to take if you see the signs but have not entered the property:**

- 👉 **Call your supervisor immediately and inform him or her of the situation.**
- 👉 **Check with your supervisor regarding securing the property.**
- 👉 **DO NOT IMPOUND, TOUCH OR MOVE THE SICK OR DEAD BIRDS.**
- 👉 **The supervisor should call the Department of Food and Agriculture immediately at 1-562-795-1940 and report this incident.**

**If you have entered a property and you see signs of Exotic Newcastle Disease you should do the following:**

- ☞ **Step off of the property.**
- ☞ **Do not get into the truck.**
- ☞ **Radio your supervisor and inform him or her of the situation immediately.**
- ☞ **Your shoes should be disinfected before entering the truck to leave the location.**
- ☞ **The supervisor should call the Department of Food and Agriculture at 1-562-795-1940 immediately.**

**Following these steps will decrease the risk of cross-contamination.**



# **Other common questions about Exotic Newcastle Disease.**

## **Can this disease be transmitted to humans?**

This disease does not pose a threat to human health. The agents from Food and agriculture routinely wear “Hazardous Materials” equipment to avoid spreading the disease to other sites. This disease is highly contagious among chickens and turkeys.

## **Does this pose a threat to the safety of poultry and eggs?**

This disease does not pose any threat to the safety of poultry and eggs.

**If you have any further questions or require assistance in testing birds please call 1-562-795-1940.**

# Precautions to prevent cross-contamination

Upon coming into a contaminated area what steps should I take for ensuring that I can't cross-contaminate another area or site?

- 🍌 **Thick soled shoes or boots that are water resistant should be worn**
- 🍌 **Remove debris from shoes or boots and disinfect with bleach solution**

# **Precautions to prevent cross-contamination**

- One part bleach mixed with nine parts water should be used to disinfect the shoes or boots.**
- The shoes or boots should be washed thoroughly before leaving the site.**
- Disposable exam gloves should be put in a plastic bag.**
- Coveralls or uniform should be put into a plastic bag (if possible).**

# Cross-contamination prevention

The following items can be used as preventative measures to decrease the risk of cross-contamination of other sites.



# SHELTERS BEWARE



**Consequences of bringing sick poultry/birds into the shelter:**

# Consequences of bringing sick poultry/birds into the shelter:

- Exotic Newcastle Disease is highly contagious and will contaminate the shelter and other equipment used.
- The USDA/CDFA will place an indefinite **quarantine on the shelter.**
- This means all birds entering the shelter must stay until the quarantine has been lifted (when the outbreak is over).
- The shelter must be disinfected. Bacteriocidal soaps **will not kill viruses.**
- The one to nine parts bleach solution can be used to disinfect.
- Disinfecting the shelter area does not mean the quarantine will be lifted.
- Employees that have poultry/birds at home need to disinfect thoroughly as a precaution to prevent cross-contamination to poultry/birds at home.



# Recommendations

- 👉 **Do not bring any poultry/birds into the shelter.**
- 👉 **Any sick poultry/birds should be considered a suspect for Newcastle Disease.**
- 👉 **The Department of Food and Agriculture should be called immediately.**
- 👉 **Do not allow the public to bring poultry/birds into the office.**
- 👉 **Posting signs outside the office door may discourage the public from bringing poultry/birds into the shelter.**
- 👉 **Abandoned poultry/birds should be considered suspects for Exotic Newcastle disease.**