



Charlie Crist  
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.  
State Surgeon General

---

**MARTIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

---

September 30, 2010

*For Immediate Release*

Media Contact:  
Renay Rouse – (772) 631-6008

## **MOSQUITO ADVISORY ISSUED FOR MARTIN COUNTY**

*A second horse confirmed with West Nile virus*

The Martin County Health Department is issuing a Mosquito Advisory for the county following the confirmation of additional cases of West Nile virus infection.

This week, a horse in Indiantown and a sentinel chicken from Jupiter Island tested positive for West Nile virus disease. Earlier this month, a horse and two sentinel chickens that were housed near Indiantown tested positive for the disease. These test results indicate that West Nile continues to increase in mosquitoes in this area, which enhances the risk of human exposure to the disease.

Earlier this summer, a horse in the Hobe Sound area and two chickens in western Martin County tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis.

Though rare in humans, West Nile virus infection is a mosquito borne disease that can cause mild to severe illness including headache, fever, pain and fatigue. Anyone with severe symptoms should contact their doctor.

The Martin County Health Department reminds residents and visitors to take precautions to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. In addition, horse owners are urged to vaccinate their animals.

### **To protect yourself from mosquitoes, you should remember to practice the “5 D’s”:**

- **Dusk and Dawn** – Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are seeking blood.
- **Dress** – Wear clothing that covers most of your skin.
- **DEET** – When the potential exists for exposure to mosquitoes, repellents containing up to 30 percent DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide) are recommended. Other effective mosquito repellents include picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, and IR3535. Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before you apply. Some repellents are not suitable for children.
- **Drainage** – Check around your home to rid the area of standing water, where mosquitoes lay eggs.

For more information: contact Bob Washam, Martin County Health Department, (772) 221-4090 or Gene Lemire, Martin County Mosquito Control, (772) 288-5659.

Information is also available at: <http://www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/index.html>

###