

Brazos County Health Department

A City-County Public Health District



News Release

May 17, 2010

For Immediate Release

West Nile Virus Season Begins

As May starts the West Nile Virus (WNV) season, the Brazos County Health Department (BCHD) encourages all residents to keep up their defenses and practice the Four D's:

- **Drain** standing water around the house, including tires, cans, flowerpots, rain gutters, buckets, wading pools, puddles, etc. Trim grass and shrubs and do not over water lawns and gardens. Change water in birdbaths often.
- Wear insect repellent containing **DEET**. Those repellents with picaridin, oil of lemon-eucalyptus, and IR3535 are also approved.
- Stay indoors at **dusk** and **dawn** when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Dress** in long sleeves and pants when outdoors to prevent bites.

BCHD also tests specific types of dead birds (blue jays, cardinals, crows, owls or hawks) for the WNV. When possible, health department staff may pick up a dead bird from the list above, if the carcass is in good condition.

To report a dead bird from the list above, please contact the health department at (979) 361-4450.

(News media: for more information contact Sara Mendez, PIO, at (979) 361-4440.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.