



Jeb Bush  
Governor  
Secretary

John O. Agwunobi M.D., M.B.A.

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 11/6/03  
**TO:** NEWS MEDIA  
**FROM:** PETER P. SYLVESTER, M.D.  
DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** West Nile Virus (WNV)

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## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**RELEASE DATE:** 11/6/03

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
**872-4455 EXT. 269**

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### Human Case of Illness Associated with West Nile Virus Confirmed

The Bay County Health Department has received one additional confirmed report of a human case of illness associated with West Nile Virus in a Bay County Resident. This brings the total number of cases for the county to eleven. Bay County has been under alert for mosquito-borne disease since mid-July of this year.

Healthcare Providers should contact the County Health Department if they suspect an individual may have a mosquito-borne illness. DOH laboratories provide testing services for healthcare providers treating patients with clinical signs of mosquito-borne disease.

DOH continues to advise the public to remain diligent in their personal mosquito protection efforts. These should include the "5 D's" for prevention:

- ? Dusk and Dawn -- Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are seeking blood, for many species this is during the dusk and dawn hours.
- ? Dress -- Wear clothing that covers skin.
- ? DEET -- When the potential exists for exposure to mosquitoes, repellents containing DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide, or N,N-diethyl-3-methylbenzamide) are recommended. Products with concentrations up to 30% DEET are generally recommended for most situations. (It is not recommended to use DEET on children less than 2 months old. Instead, infants should be kept indoors or mosquito netting used over carriers when mosquitoes are present). If additional protection is necessary, apply a permethrin repellent directly to your clothing. Always read the manufacturer's directions carefully before you put on a repellent.

?      **Drainage -- Check your home to rid it of standing water in which mosquitoes can lay their eggs. Elimination of breeding sites is one of the keys to prevention.**

**Tips on Eliminating Mosquito Breeding Sites**

**Clean out eaves, troughs and gutters.**

**Remove old tires or drill holes in those used in playgrounds to drain.**

**Turn over or remove empty plastic pots.**

**Pick up all beverage containers and cups.**

**Check tarps on boats or other equipment that may collect water.**

**Pump out bilges on boats.**

**Replace water in birdbaths and pet or other animal feeding dishes at least once a week.**

**Change water in plant trays, including hanging plants, at least once a week.**

**Remove vegetation or obstructions in drainage ditches that prevent the flow of water.**