



September Newsletter

Mosquito Protection for Your Pets

Can pets and livestock get West Nile virus infection?

Yes. Pets and livestock can become infected with West Nile virus (WNV) if bitten by mosquitoes that carry the virus.

What signs of infection should I look for?

Encephalitis is an infection of the brain. Sick animals may have a fever, weakness, un-coordination, muscle spasms and signs of a neurological disease such as change in temperament or seizures.

What should I do if I suspect my pet has West Nile virus?

If your animal is sick, contact your veterinarian. The veterinarian will evaluate your animal, provide treatment, and forward samples for laboratory testing to rule out other possible diseases, such as rabies. The Department of Agriculture will assist veterinarians in determining if WNV is the cause once the suspicious neurological disease is reported.

Can I catch West Nile virus from animals?

WNV is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. It is not transmitted directly to people from animals, birds, or other people. However, people who directly handle sick animals should take precautions, such as wearing gloves to protect themselves.

How can I protect my home, pets and myself from West Nile virus?

You can begin by reducing the amount of standing water available for mosquito breeding around your home.

Where do I call if I need more information on West Nile virus in domestic animals?

Call the Office of the State Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture at 1-860-713-2505 or Department of Environmental Protection toll free 1-866-WNV-LINE.

PETS RULE!!

On The Lighter Side



Does my hair look okay?



Can we have just ONE more treat, Dad?

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