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HEALTH OFFICIALS ISSUE MOSQUITO BORNE ILLNESS ADVISORY Sentinel chickens continue to detect West Nile Virus

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Martin County, FL – The Florida Department of Health, Martin County Board of County Commissioners and the Town of Jupiter Island urge residents to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites following confirmations of West Nile virus in sentinel chicken flocks in the Hobe Sound/Jupiter Island area. Martin County conducts routine testing for mosquito-borne viruses using chicken flocks in various areas of the county. At this time, there are no suspected or confirmed human cases in the county, though the risk of transmission to humans has increased.

Drain & Cover

To protect against mosquito bites, residents should wear protective clothing, such as long sleeves or pants, and apply insect repellent according to directions when outdoors, especially at dawn or dusk when mosquitoes are more active. Residents are also advised to repair or replace any broken windows or screens, and drain any standing water around their home or businesses as mosquitoes leave eggs in even small amounts of water.

A video “Drain & Cover” for mosquito bite prevention can be found here:

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/videos/drain-and-cover.html>

Mosquito bite protection information, printable flyer: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/zika-virus/documents/mos-prevention-qxp-02-16.pdf>

For more information on mosquito borne diseases and symptoms, visit:

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/mosquito-borne-diseases/> or call the Florida Department of Health in Martin County at 772-221-4000.

For more information on controlling mosquitoes, visit:

<https://www.martin.fl.us/MosquitoControl> or call Martin County Mosquito Control at 772-419-6974.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the [Public Health Accreditation Board](#), works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Follow us on Twitter at [@GoHealthyMartin](#) and on [Facebook](#). For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit www.MartinCountyHealth.com