



August 2011

Two Sentinel Chickens In Rialto Test Positive For West Nile Virus

The State Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) confirmed that two chickens from our flocks in Rialto tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) on July 11th, 2011. This is the first evidence of WNV in chickens and within the area served by our Program, the County of San Bernardino, Mosquito and Vector Control Program.



Read our press release about the positive cases in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

West Nile Virus Prevention

San Bernardino County residents can protect themselves and their families from West Nile virus by taking these precautions:



- **Drain or Dump** - Remove all standing water around your property where mosquitoes lay eggs such as birdbaths, green swimming pools, ponds, old tires, buckets, clogged gutters, or even puddles from leaky sprinklers.
- **Dawn and Dusk** - Avoid spending time outside when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Dress** - Wear shoes, socks, and long pants and long-sleeved shirts that are loose fitting and light colored.
- **DEET** - Apply insect repellent containing DEET according to manufacturer's directions.
- **Doors** - Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes to prevent mosquitoes from entering home.

Creepy Crawly Bed Bugs

Bed bugs are parasitic insects that feed mostly at night on the blood of humans, other mammals, poultry and birds. You can tell if you have bed bugs if:



- Itchy welts on the skin or other reactions to the bites, although some people show no reaction. Note: Bed bugs are not regarded as disease carriers.
- Live bugs in the bed mattress folds, box spring coils and frame.
- Blood spots on mattress and bed sheets.
- Brown or black excrement spots on mattress and bed sheets.
- Distinctive almond-like odor.

[Click here](#) for more information.

If you think that you have a bed bug infestation, please call Mosquito and Vector control at (909) 388-4600.

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The Mosquito and Vector Control program provides inspections, education and disease surveillance services in the cities of Colton, San Bernardino, Grand Terrace, Fontana, Highland, Loma Linda, Needles, Redlands, Rialto, Upland, Yucaipa and all unincorporated areas in our County.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amanda Gaspard, Health Education Specialist, at 800-442-2283 or Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov.

