

West Nile Virus - Birds

The United States Department of Agriculture and the Westchester County Health Department are no longer taking reports of dead birds or submitting birds for West Nile virus testing. Surveillance and control efforts regarding West Nile virus will be focused in the areas of adult mosquito surveillance, larval mosquito control and public education.

If you find a dead bird please dispose of it properly. To dispose of a dead bird use gloves and a double layer of plastic trash bags to pick up the bird. Using your gloved hands and a doubled trash bag, enclose the dead bird in the bags. Close and tie the bags and dispose in the trash or as directed by your municipality. Wash your hands with soap and warm water.

West Nile virus is not transmissible via touching a dead bird. A person must be bitten by an infected mosquito for transmission to occur. If you have any questions please contact the Westchester County Health Department at 914-813-5000.