

# **IBERIA PARISH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**July 30, 2012**

Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, LSU School of Veterinary Medicine Arbovirus Laboratory reported 18 WNV positive mosquito pools to the Iberia Parish Mosquito Control District. These positive virus indications are from the City of New Iberia, Coteau, Rynella, Freyou and Emile Verret. Most of these areas were targeted for aerial operations over the past weekend. Citizens can anticipate the same level of abatement operations in the days ahead. This is a serious public health threat --- the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has reported 33 human WNV infections. Fortunately, no human cases have been reported in Iberia Parish, but national, state and the Iberia Parish Mosquito Control District are urging citizens to protect themselves against mosquito bites and mosquito borne diseases! It is imperative that citizens keep insect repellent handy, wear light colored clothing with long sleeves and long pants when mosquitoes are most active and get rid of mosquito breeding sites near the home! Residents throughout the Parish are urged to follow these simple guidelines recommended by the CDC!

- **Apply mosquito repellent that contains DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus and apply as directed on the label!**
- **Protect children sensitive to insect bites with repellent and cover exposed skin --- there are many preparations sold in drug stores and camping sections of local stores that are formulated for adults as well as children.**
- **Wear light colored, light weight clothing with long sleeves and long pants when outdoors particularly at DAWN and DUSK.**
- **Avoid wearing perfumes or colognes when outside for prolonged periods.**
- **Remove all sources of standing water near your home (i.e. cans, barrels, planters, tires, containers and tarps).**
- **Keep all pools, spas, bird baths, ponds and fountains clean and free of debris.**
- **Maintain tight fitting screens on doors and windows.**
- **Don't FEED the storm drains! Sweep up lawn clippings, leaves and tree limbs from sidewalks and driveways.**

If you have any questions or mosquito related problems feel free to contact our office at (337) 365-4933. Please visit us on the web [www.iberiparishgovernment.com](http://www.iberiparishgovernment.com) and click on "Mosquito Control". For more information about West Nile Virus and pesticides for mosquito control please visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

Any questions after office hours please contact Herff Jones (337) 380-7140