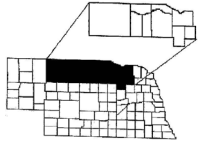


Press Release



North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) represents the following counties;
Antelope, Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, Knox, Pierce, and Rock
316 East Douglas Street, O'Neill, NE 68763
(402) 336 - 2406 or (877) 336 - 2406

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 1, 2003

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Roger Wiese 402-336-2406
1-877-336-2406

North Central District Health Department Receives Contract to Perform West Nile Virus Surveillance

The North Central District Health Department (NCDHD) received Center for Disease Control (CDC) grant funding of \$8,000 as part of the Nebraska Health & Human Services System 2003 West Nile Virus Surveillance Grant Contract. The agency will be provided with supplemental equipment to facilitate the surveillance activities, which include mosquito light traps to conduct mosquito collection, and freezers and coolers for district wide collection of dead birds.

As a participant in the surveillance program, NCDHD will be responsible for matters of communication within our locality, including pertinent press releases and public awareness programs. NCDHD will be handling dead bird collection in Antelope, Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Holt, Keya Paha, Knox, Pierce, and Rock counties. Additionally, NCDHD agency will be responsible for mosquito collection in Cherry County.

On April 1, 2003, the Nebraska Health & Human Services Systems held a conference on West Nile Virus surveillance in which NCDHD participated. Instructional and supplemental materials on West Nile Virus surveillance were distributed to those in attendance at the conference.

If you have questions on West Nile Virus, or would like additional information on West Nile Virus Surveillance by North Central District Health Department (NCDHD), please contact our office at 1-877-336-2406.