



FIND A DEAD BIRD?

Did you know that some birds, like crows and jays, can get sick and die from diseases like West Nile virus? Reporting dead birds to your local health department (LHD) is a great way to keep public health officials “in the know” about some diseases that are spread by mosquitoes.

Did you know dead birds are sent to a laboratory and are tested for West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis? These diseases are spread by mosquitoes and can cause encephalitis (swelling of the brain).

How to Submit A Dead Bird for Testing

1. Call your LHD to report the dead bird.
2. If you find a dead bird that is in good condition, **DO NOT** touch it with your bare hands. Double-bag the bird wearing gloves or plastic bags over your hands.
3. Place the dead bird in a cool place, like a container with ice.
4. Take the dead bird to your LHD within 24 hours of finding it. Be sure to tell the public health official at your LHD where and when you found the bird.
 - Birds dead more than 24 hours cannot be tested and should be placed in the trash.
 - Be sure to wash hands well after throwing away the dead bird.

Thank you for helping us make public health work for you!