

# EPI INVESTIGATOR

The Alachua County Health Department

Fall 2011



## “Improving Public Health in Our Community Through Cooperation”

**Alachua County Health Department**  
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### Prevent Mosquito-Borne Disease

By: Amethyst Auza, CDC PHAP Associate

In 2011, twelve human cases of West Nile Virus infection

have been reported in Florida in Duval County with onset in June (1), July (8), and August (3). Two associated deaths have been reported.

During this time of year, it is especially important to remind residents to **DRAIN and COVER** to prevent mosquito breeding and mosquito-borne disease.

**DRAIN standing water:**

Drain water from garbage cans, buckets, pool covers, plastic swimming pools, coolers, toy, flowerpots, and any other containers where water has collected.

Discard items not being used and collecting water.

Empty and clean birdbaths and pets' water bowls at least once of twice a week.

Protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don't accumulate water.

Maintain swimming pools in good condition and appropriately chlorinated.



<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/arboviral/index.html>

For state and county Arbovirus Surveillance Data:

<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/chdalachua/environmental/mosquito.htm>

Photo credit: <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/arboviral/WestNileVirus.html>

**COVER your skin with:**

**Clothing.**

Wear shoes, socks, long pants, and long sleeves when mosquitoes are active.

**Repellant.**

Use repellents with 10-30% DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, and IR3535 according to label's instructions.

Use mosquito netting to protect children younger than 2 months.

**COVER doors and windows.**

Repair broken screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.



### Disease Control Unit welcomes new CDC associate

By: Isabel Anasco, RN

The ACHD Epidemiology Program welcomes Jacquelyn (Jackie) McCullough, our new CDC associate. Jackie graduated from the University of Florida in April 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Health Education and Behavior, specializing in community health. Jackie started as an intern at ACHD in January 2011 working in the Minority AIDS Program. She started the 2 year CDC Public Health Associate Program and was

happily placed back with ACHD in August 2011. Jackie will be working in the Epidemiology program for the first year and Environmental Health for her second year. Jackie is originally from St. Petersburg, Florida, which she frequently visits to be with family. In her free time she either sleeps or works at her part time job for Proactiv.

Jackie says, "It's a great feeling to help others, anything I can do to help let me know!" :)



## WORLD RABIES DAY SEPTEMBER 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011

By: David Parfitt  
MPH intern with the ACHD Epi Program



Since 2007 World Rabies Day has aimed to increase the awareness, prevention and control of the rabies virus, both globally as well as locally. This event, co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Alliance for Rabies Control (ARC), emphasizes the need for public action including domestic pet vaccinations and the constant reminder of enjoying wild animals from afar to decrease the spread of this disease.



Rabies is a preventable zoonosis, or disease transmitted from non-human animals to humans, and has the highest case-fatality rate of any infectious disease. This disease usually develops from the non-treated bite wound of a rabid animal where death can occur as quickly as 6-43 days post clinical onset.

The CDC announced that during 2009 there were 6,690 rabid animals and 4 human rabies cases reported. Beginning in the mid 1970's wildlife has accounted for more than 80% of rabid animals reported in the U.S. In 2009 roughly 92% of the reported rabid animals were considered wild with raccoons, bats, skunks and foxes making up the majority.

Although human rabies fatalities are rare, the cost of prevention, disease detection and control of the disease surpass \$300 million annually. The total costs include animal control programs, pet vaccinations, maintenance of rabies labs and direct medical care including post exposure prophylaxis or PEP. The United States administers close to 40,000 PEPs yearly averaging over \$1,000 each.

In an effort to support World Rabies Day, at the community level, the Alachua County Health Department will be setting up a rabies awareness table in the main lobby on September 28th. The table will have educational materials available in regards to both rabies prevention and control. This year the presentation will have an additional emphasis on wildlife rabies.

How can you help prevent the spread of rabies?

- Keep your pets and selected livestock vaccinated against the rabies virus and maintain booster vaccinations.
- Make sure you pets are spayed or neutered. Fixed pets are less likely to wander and will also help limit the number of strays.
- Keep your pets on your property and obey all local leash laws to avoid contact with wild animals.
- Maintain trash in tightly sealed containers and don't leave unattended pet food outside which may attract unwanted guests.
- Don't forget to observe, enjoy and respect wildlife from a distance and teach children the same.
- Report unusual acting wild or stray animals as well as wild animal attacks on domestic animals to Alachua County Animal Services at 352-264-9870.
- Do not attempt to nurse sick wild animals back to good health. Please contact Animal Services or a local Animal Rescue group.

References:

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# FLORIDA REPORTABLE DISEASES *Alachua County 2 year activity*

Disease Activity	2011	2010	2010	Disease Activity	cont'd	2011	2010	2010
	Jan-Aug	Jan-Aug	Jan-Dec			Jan-Aug	Jan-Aug	Jan-Dec
AIDS	27	23	33	Listeriosis (02700)		0	0	0
Animal Bites to Humans (07101)	34	40	58	Lyme Disease (06959)		1	1	1
Anthrax	0	0	0	Lymphogranuloma Venereum		0	0	0
Botulism	0	0	0	Malaria (08460)		2	2	2
Brucellosis	0	0	0	Measles (05590)		3	0	0
Campylobacteriosis (03840)	16	19	22	Meningitis, Group B Strep (32040)		0	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Poisoning (98600)	0	5	5	Meningitis other (32090)		4	2	2
Chancroid	0	0	0	Meningitis Strep Pneumoniae (32020)		0	0	0
<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	1178	1139	1693	Meningococcal ( <i>Neisseria Meningitidis</i> )03630		0	0	0
<i>Cholera</i>	0	0	0	Mercury Poisoning		0	0	0
Ciguatera	0	0	0	Monkey Bite (07103)		0	1	1
Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD)	0	0	0	Mumps		0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis (13680)	12	7	8	Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning		0	0	0
Cyclosporiasis (00720)	2	0	0	Pertussis (03390)		5	1	4
Dengue (06100)	0	2	3	Pesticide-Related Illness or Injury		2	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0	Plague		0	0	0
Encephalitis	0	0	0	Psittacosis		0	0	0
Eastern Equine	0	0	0	Q fever		0	0	0
Non-arboviral	0	0	0	Rabies Animal (07102)		5	8	10
Other arboviral	0	0	0	Ricin Toxin		0	0	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (08200)		0	2	3
West Nile	0	0	0	Rubella		0	0	0
Western Equine	0	0	0	SARS		0	0	0
<i>E.coli</i> 0157:H7 (41601)	0	0	0	Salmonellosis (00300)		43	41	64
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis,HGE, A.</i>	1	0	0	Saxitoxin poisoning psp		0	0	0
<i>Phagocytophilum (08381)</i>				Shigellosis (00490)		10	25	29
<i>Ehrlichiosis/anaplasmosis,hme e chaff. 08382</i>	3	2	3	Smallpox		0	0	0
<i>Escherichia Coli, Shiga Toxin Producing 00800</i>	5	3	3	<i>Staphylococcus aureus, VRSA</i>		0	0	0
<i>E.coli, Other (41603)</i>	0	0	0	<i>Staphylococcus enterotoxin B</i>		0	0	0
Giardiasis (acute) (00710)	16	19	23	Streptococcal Disease grp A inva (03400)		4	4	7
Gonorrhea	366	306	487	<i>Strep pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, Drug resistant (04823)		3	7	9
H. Influenzae Pneumonia (48220)	0	0	0	<i>Strept pneumoniae</i> invasive Disease, susceptible (04830)		7	5	13
<i>Haemophilus influenzae, inv disease(03841)</i>	4	1	1	Syphilis		14	16	21
Hansen's Disease (Leprosy)	0	0	0	Syphilis in pregnant women & neonates		0	0	0
Hantavirus infection	0	0	0	Tetanus		0	0	0
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome 42000	0	0	0	Toxoplasmosis (acute)		1	0	0
Hepatitis A	1	4	5	Trichinosis		0	0	0
Hepatitis B (+HBsAG in preg women or child < 24 months (07039)	8	6	10	Tuberculosis		7	2	9
Hepatitis B Perinatal (07744)	0	0	0	Tularemia		0	0	0
Hepatitis B Acute (07030)	1	2	3	Typhoid Fever		0	0	0
Hepatitis B Chronic (07032)	62	51	69	Typhus Fever		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Acute (07051)	0	1	1	Vaccinia Disease		0	0	0
Hepatitis C Chronic (07054)	294	145	245	Varicella (05290)		9	8	9
Hepatitis E (07053)	1	0	0	<i>Vibrio Vulnificus</i> 00199		0	0	0
Herpes Simplex Virus in < 6mo of age	0	0	0	<i>V. cholerae</i> Serogroup 01/ non 01		0	0	0
HIV	54	35	50	Viral Hemorrhagic Fever		0	0	0
Human Papillomavirus (HPV) <12 yrs	0	0	0	Yellow Fever		0	0	0
Influenza A, Novel or Pandemic Strains	0	0	0					
Lead Poisoning (94890)	0	3	7					
Legionellosis (48280)	1	0	0					

Any disease outbreak (e.g. in the community, hospital, or other institution; or foodborne or waterborne) presence of a disease outbreak. All cases suspected and confirmed are included in this report. Any grouping or clustering of patients having similar diseases, symptoms or syndromes that may indicate the



## WaterproofFL: Pool Safety is Everyone’s Responsibility

By: Amethyst Auza, PHAP Associate

The WaterproofFL campaign urges everyone to take extra steps to prevent drowning.

Health care providers are a valuable link to the community and its children and families. **Spread the word about drowning prevention.**

According to the Florida Department of Health Office of Injury Prevention:

- Drowning is the leading case of death in children ages 1-4 in Florida.
- Enough children drown each year in Florida to fill 3 to 4 classrooms.
- 68% of drowning victims under age 5 drowned in a swimming pool.

<http://www.doh.state.fl.us/DEMO/InjuryPrevention/Data/2009Data/DrowningFact%20Sheet2009.pdf>

Drowning happens silently and quickly, so use the Layers of Protection to keep children safe:

### LAYER 1: SUPERVISION

Supervision, the first and most crucial layer of protection, means someone is always actively watching when a child is in the pool. Designate that adult with a Water Watcher tag. Make sure Water Watchers are replaced when taking bathroom breaks or stepping away. In large groups, it is easy to think that someone else is watching the kids, so the Water Watcher tag is a good reminder that someone is actually doing so.

### LAYER 2: BARRIERS

A child should never be able to enter the pool area unaccompanied by a guardian. Barriers physically block a child from the pool. These include: child-proof locks on all doors, self-latching and self-closing gates, door and pool alarms, and professionally fitted pool covers.

### LAYER 3: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Even if you're not a parent, it's important to learn CPR. The techniques are easy to learn and can mean the difference between life and death. In an emergency, it is critical to have a phone nearby and immediately dial 911.

<http://www.waterproofFL.com>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMjEwGGXDkg>

For printed WaterproofFL brochures and Water Watcher tags, contact Amethyst Auza at 352-334-7900 x3531.

