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PRESS RELEASE

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RESIDENTS OF SUSAN PARK URGED TO MOSQUITO-PROOF HOMES

NOTICES PART OF ROUTINE RESPONSE BY PARISH

Kenner, LA. – As part of a routine process, door hangers were being distributed in the Susan Park neighborhood on Friday urging residents to mosquito-proof their homes after positive tests were received for mosquitoes that carry West Nile Encephalitis, officials said.

Mosquito Control Services has sentinel chickens placed throughout the parish, in addition to other monitoring methods, and they are checked regularly, said Deputy Chief Operating Officer Natalie Newton. These chickens are a part of the normal surveillance procedures to provide advance warning of the presence of West Nile Encephalitis.

The positive results in the Susan Park neighborhood were collected on Tuesday. Positive test results trigger the distribution of literature to keep residents notified and to provide them with information about mosquito control. The protocols in place call for notification in a five-block radius around the epicenter of a positive test.

The yellow door hanger instructs residents to repair torn window screens and to use mosquito repellent and cover up when going outdoors. In addition, residents should look for anything in their yards that can hold even a small amount of water. Tires, toys, pot saucers and other items should be emptied and flushed with clean water at least once a week.

In addition to the door hangers, Mosquito Control workers put out traps to monitor the mosquito population and additional mosquito spraying has been scheduled for the evenings of Oct. 14, 15 and 16.

“This is a routine response to a positive test, so there is no reason for anyone to panic,” Newton said. “Eliminating any standing water sources is the best way to make sure these mosquitoes do not spread.” Additional information can be found on the Parish’s website under “Mosquito Control” (<http://www.jeffparish.net/index.aspx?page=884>) or call the Jefferson Parish Environmental Affairs Department at 504-731-4612.

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