

Health Department Reminds Residents to Be Aware of West Nile Virus Threat, Take Precautions

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BATON ROUGE, La. Louisiana is experiencing its highest case rate of West Nile virus in several years, with 145 cases and nine deaths from the disease reported so far in 2012.

"Hurricane Isaac is the most obvious threat right now. In addition, everyone needs to be mindful that we are all still at risk of contracting West Nile Virus. This has been the most active West Nile Virus season Louisiana has experienced since 2006, so it's critical that everyone takes the necessary precautions, particularly as residents return to their homes and begin clean-up efforts," said DHH Secretary Bruce D. Greenstein.

Just last week, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals held a press conference to remind people that they need to be aware of West Nile and realize that while this virus is a serious health threat, it's also a preventable one.

"While Louisianians