West Nile Virus

What you need to know about West Nile Virus:
To date there have been no reported cases of infection on campus. While there have been a number of high profile deaths from West Nile Virus, the chances of developing serious illness from West Nile is approximately 1 percent of all people infected by West Nile. Of the other 99 percent of people infected, only 20 percent will ever show any signs of illness. Signs of illness can include fever, headache, body aches, muscle weakness, or rash. West Nile is transmitted to humans only be mosquito bites. Handling dead birds does not pose a West Nile infection threat to human health. More information about West Nile Virus and how to prevent it can be found at the following links:

(Fulton County West Nile)

http://www.health.state.ga.us/pdfs/epi/vbd/WNV%20FAQ%202006.pdf
(State of Georgia)

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

What Georgia Tech is doing to decrease Mosquitoes on campus?
For the last several years, Georgia Tech has been working to eradicate mosquito-breeding areas throughout campus. Water can accumulate in a large leaf and be a sufficient volume to allow for mosquito breeding. Georgia Tech Facilities staff is working to eliminate sources of standing water and administer larvicide in areas where water is most likely to accumulate.

What can you do to eliminate Mosquitoes and protect yourself against West Nile?
You can help Georgia Tech control the mosquito population by eliminating all standing water that you find. Standing water sources may include a cup of water, an empty flowerpot, or anything else that can hold water. You can protect yourself by visiting the links above to learn more about West Nile as well as reporting to EHS all dead birds.

How to handle a dead bird:
If you see a dead bird on campus, please call EHS at 404-894-4635 to report the incident. EHS will determine the proper disposal method. EHS may request that you dispose of the
bird yourself. Should you find a dead bird on campus or at home and decide to dispose of it on your own, you should don gloves and place the bird into double plastic bags and throw away into an outside trash receptacle. EHS may remove the dead bird if it is one of the following species currently being tested by the Fulton County Health Department: blue jays, crows or raptors (birds that hunt prey by flight)