Indian River Mosquito Control District



Commissioner Janice Broda ◆ Commissioner Matt Erpenbeck ◆ Commissioner Tom Lowther Sherry Burroughs, Executive Director

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Sentinel Chicken Program

It is important to us that our chickens receive excellent care.

- The flocks are inspected a minimum of three times each week.
- Every bird has access to fresh water and food 24/7 via their feeder and water system.
- Each house has a perch installed within the coop to allow the chickens to roost at night.
- Every chicken is monitored weekly for viral activity. Although the viruses are harmful to man, they do not cause harm to the chicken. This is why chickens are ideal "sentinels."
- IRMCD chickens are only in the field for 6 months.
- After 6 months, the chickens are retired to good homes and new chickens are placed out in the field.



Chickens are an essential tool in the fight against Vector Borne Illness. The chicken's ability to attract mosquitoes and not become ill is crucial to the early detection of diseases like West Nile Virus and St Louis Encephalitis.

We appreciate your concern for our chickens but please do not feed them or put items into their house as it may unintentionally harm them.



Thank You for your Support!

Please contact us for additional questions!

772-562-2393