Discuss with your veterinarian the benefits of fall booster vaccinations for Eastern and Western Encephalitis and West Nile Virus. Both of these diseases are frequently included in spring vaccinations. For horses in climates that have an early frost killing the mosquitoes by mid-September, an annual vaccination provides adequate protection. For horses living in climates with extended warm fall weather, veterinarians will frequently recommend a booster vaccination 5-6 months following the spring dose.

The number of positive cases of WNV reported to the Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory rise exponentially in October. Visit the Equine Disease Communication Center website for updates on all equine diseases.

Warm weather and standing water support strong populations of mosquitoes that spread these diseases. For more information on WNV and mosquito control see our extension Fact Sheet WNV and Mosquito Control.