



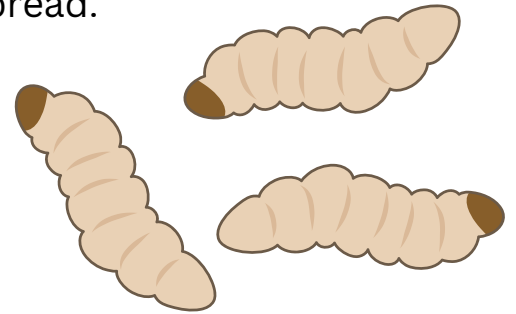
New World Screwworm (NWS) Reporting Guide

June 11, 2026

New World screwworm can affect any warm-blooded animal, such as livestock (including birds and chickens), pets, wildlife, and rarely people. Early reporting helps protect animals and prevent the spread.

Check animals for warning signs:

- Wounds that get worse quickly
- Maggots in or around a wound
- Foul odor from a wound
- Swelling, drainage, or bleeding
- Signs of pain, irritation, or unusual behavior
- Reduced eating, movement, or milk production in livestock
- **Only report if you see maggots in or around an open wound.**



What should you do?

If you suspect New World screwworm:

- Contact a veterinarian immediately
- Report suspected cases right away
- Do NOT throw away live maggots in the trash or place them outside as this can cause additional spreading
- If larvae fall from a wound, place them in a leak proof container with rubbing alcohol and follow guidance from a veterinarian or other health official

Who to contact:

Livestock:

Contact your veterinarian and report cases to the Texas Animal Health Commission or the State veterinarian on call at 1-800-550-8242.

Pets:

Contact your local veterinarian.

Wildlife:

Report suspected cases to Texas Parks and Wildlife officials.

For Bastrop County:

Rachel Patterson, Wildlife Biologist

Phone: (979) 255-8481

Email: Rachel.Patterson@tpwd.texas.gov

People:

Human cases are rare, but anyone with maggots or a worsening wound should contact a health provider immediately.

Prevention Tips

- Inspect livestock, pets, and wounds regularly
- Keep wounds clean, covered, and treated
- Protect animals from ticks, bites, scratches, and other wound causing injuries
- Use clean equipment and inspect fences, trailers, and handling areas for sharp edges

BCPHD Contact

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