



# MEDIA

# release

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## RANDOM CHECKS ON HORSE MOVEMENT THIS WEEKEND

Territory and Municipal Services Chief Executive Mike Zissler today reminded horse owners to make sure they have appropriate movement statements and that they carry them when riding or moving horses by vehicle.

“Authorised Parks Conservation and Lands officers will be accompanied by RTA vehicle inspectors and will be conducting random checks to ensure people are complying with the current requirements.

Mr Zissler said the officers will be patrolling roads and horse trails in and around the ACT urban area.

“While it’s good news that the ACT remains free of equine influenza, it is vital that people do not become complacent.

“Horse owners and riders that do not carry a valid movement statement will be in breach of the Animal Diseases Act which could lead to a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or up to six months imprisonment. Movement statements are available from [http://www.tams.act.gov.au/live/equine\\_influenza/act\\_movement\\_system\\_for\\_equines\\_information\\_sheet](http://www.tams.act.gov.au/live/equine_influenza/act_movement_system_for_equines_information_sheet)

“These measures are necessary to ensure the ACT remains free of equine influenza and are in line with the national strategy to control and eradicate the disease through vaccination, restricted movement conditions, enhanced surveillance and biosecurity measures.

Mr Zissler said that the ‘biosecurity’ measures refer to sound hygiene practices when dealing with horses.

“The eradication of EI relies on stopping the spread of the disease. Anyone who has any contact with horses has a responsibility to help stop the spread of EI.

“Some spread in NSW and Qld has been caused by people not following recommended decontamination procedures with disinfectant, soap and water.

Mr Zissler also stressed the importance that all equipment, clothing or vehicles that come into contact with horses or onto properties with horses must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

For updates and information visit [www.tams.act.gov.au](http://www.tams.act.gov.au) or [www.outbreak.gov.au](http://www.outbreak.gov.au)

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