

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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INCREASED WEST NILE VIRUS ACTIVITY IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY PROMPTS TRUCK MOUNTED GROUND ADULT MOSQUITO CONTROL APPLICATIONS

OCTOBER 6, 2015: Due to the extremely high activity of WNV in Riverside County, the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District has scheduled ultra-low volume (ULV) ground applications, using truck mounted sprayers to reduce the risk of disease transmission to humans and animals by adult mosquitoes. It is very important for the District to take immediate action to reduce adult mosquito populations to protect human and animal health. Application routes and spray notifications are available at: http://www.northwestmvcd.org/Northwestmvcd/Mosquito_spraying.html.

Date for spraying: Thursday, October 8, 2015

Time for Spraying: 3:00 AM to 5:00 AM

Product to be sprayed: Aqua-Reslin (EPA Reg. EPA Reg. 432-796) at 0.05 ounces per acre

All products used are registered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the purpose of controlling mosquitoes and protecting public health. The products are applied according to label instructions by trained and certified technicians. Although the District's mosquito control products pose none to very low risk, some people may prefer to avoid exposure. However, to minimize exposure, residents and pets may remain indoors and keep windows closed during and for 15 minutes following ground ULV application. The amount of material sprayed is 0 .05 ounces per acre. This ensures that humans, animals and crops are safe. Signs have been posted along the ULV route informing residents of the control efforts.

In addition, District staff are intensifying mosquito surveillance, searching out breeding sites, and conducting larval control where appropriate. We are also distributing WNV prevention and protection tips to area residents, health care facilities, schools, and community centers.

WNV is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most individuals infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Others will have mild symptoms, such as fever, headache, and body aches. However, young children, the elderly, or individuals with lowered immune systems are at greater risk of experiencing more severe symptoms when infected. Anyone with symptoms should contact their health care provider. For the latest statewide statistics for WNV activity, please visit <http://westnile.ca.gov>. Please contact the District at (951)340-9792 to report mosquito problems, request mosquitofish, report neglected pools or standing water where mosquitoes breed, and report dead birds. Visit us online at www.northwestmvcd.org to obtain more information and submit service requests.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites:

- Apply Insect Repellent. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Lemon eucalyptus oil should not be used on children under three years of age.
- Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. Dawn and dusk are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities during that time.
- Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wear long-sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors to help keep mosquitoes away from skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

- Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places for mosquitoes to breed by draining/discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools. Change water in birdbaths and pet bowls at least weekly.
- Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

*Protect Riverside County. Together we can **Fight the Bite!***

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See Map below

