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FIGHT THE BITE THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!
--Protect Yourself And Your Family From Mosquitoes And West Nile Virus

ELK GROVE, Calif., May 26 – Warm weather and the sizzle of the barbeque attract thousands of local residents to parks, picnics and playgrounds over Memorial Day weekend but that's not all they will attract! The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District advises the community to protect itself this upcoming Memorial Day weekend from mosquitoes and West Nile virus. "If you plan to be outside when mosquitoes are most active, specifically at dawn and dusk, make sure you apply an effective insect repellent such as DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. It is extremely important that you protect yourself and your family this holiday weekend," District Manager David Brown said.

The public is strongly urged to practice the District's **7Ds: DRAIN** any standing water that may produce mosquitoes. **DAWN** and **DUSK** are times to avoid. These are the times when mosquitoes are most active. **DRESS** appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors. **DEFEND** yourself against mosquitoes by using an effective insect repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Make sure you follow label directions! **DOOR** and window screens should be in good working condition. This will prevent mosquitoes from entering your home. **DISTRICT** personnel are also available to address any mosquito problem you may be experiencing by calling 1-800-429-1022 or visit the District online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

West Nile virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), West Nile virus (WNV) is the leading cause of arboviral encephalitis in the United States. Originally discovered in Africa in 1937, WNV was first detected in the western hemisphere in 1999 in New York City. Since then it has caused seasonal epidemics of West Nile virus fever and severe neurological disease. West Nile virus is transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when they feed on infected birds.

2006 West Nile virus activity update

Level II - This year, **2 birds**, 0 sentinel chickens, 0 equines, 0 mosquito pools or 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

To report a dead bird call 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473) or visit the California Department of Health Services online at westnile.ca.gov

Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District provides mosquito and vector control services for Sacramento and Yolo Counties.

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