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**MOSQUITO CONTROL ANNOUNCES OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR
MOSQUITO AND WEST NILE VIRUS AWARENESS WEEK**

--SYMVCD continues to educate and inform the public about mosquitoes and West Nile virus

ELK GROVE, Calif., April 17, 2006 – Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (SYMVCD) announces event schedule for upcoming Mosquito and West Nile virus Awareness week. The week is designed to educate and inform the public about mosquitoes and West Nile virus.

Mosquito and West Nile virus Awareness Week Event Schedule (April 24 - April 29)

- Monday, April 24** **Fight the Bite door hanger distribution by local volunteers**
Location: Sacramento and Yolo Counties
- Tuesday, April 25** **Fight the Bite Teacher Workshop**
Location: 8631 Bond Road | Elk Grove
Time: 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 27** **Repellent distribution for Loaves and Fishes**
Location: 1321 North C. Street | Sacramento
Time: 10:00 a.m.
- Friday, April 28** **Sneak media preview: Mosquito and West Nile virus Prevention Day**
Location: 8631 Bond Road | Elk Grove
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, April 29** **Mosquito and West Nile virus Prevention Day**
Location: 8631 Bond Road | Elk Grove
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

For photo opportunity, interview or press passes for Mosquito and West Nile virus Prevention Day please contact Jennifer Benito at 916.405.2082 or by e-mail at jbenito@FIGHTtheBITE.net.

7Ds

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. We can be reached at 1-800-429-1022 or visit us online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

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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. The elderly, immune-compromised and diabetics are most susceptible to illness caused by WNV.

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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