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MOSQUITO CONTROL WARNS THE PUBLIC!

***--District's Ongoing Surveillance Program Uncovers Mosquitoes In Urban Areas Of
Sacramento And Yolo Counties***

ELK GROVE, Calif., June 23, 2006 - Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District's ongoing surveillance program uncovers mosquitoes in densely populated areas of Sacramento and Yolo Counties. "Now that summer is upon us it is extremely important that residents drain all standing water from potential mosquito breeding sources such as buckets, flowerpots or wheelbarrows around the home. Soaring temperatures this weekend will cause mosquito populations to increase dramatically, as well as cause people to open doors and windows to let cool night time air in. Make sure you have good screens on your doors and windows. If you plan to be outdoors when mosquitoes are most active, specifically at dawn or dusk, make sure you wear an effective insect repellent. People will have a lot of skin exposed with this hot weather, so people need to protect themselves," District Manager, David Brown said. "To date mosquito populations are a little lower than last year, but still higher than what we would like to see." In the event that mosquito populations pose a health threat or become a significant public nuisance, the District will implement its Mosquito-Borne Disease Management plan to protect public health and welfare from mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile virus. This plan includes aerial and ground treatments for adult mosquitoes.

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, **3 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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