

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **TWO NEW HUMAN CASES OF WEST NILE VIRUS FOR SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

*--Mosquito Season Is Not Over, Using Repellent Remains Critical*

Elk Grove, Calif.— Two new human cases of West Nile virus have been reported for Sacramento County bringing the total human case count to 14 since the on-set of the mosquito season in April. The two human cases are being reported in the Florin and Citrus Heights areas of the county. “These recent cases clearly demonstrate that mosquito season is not over,” said David Brown, District Manager. “Everyone still needs to be cautious and wear an effective mosquito repellent to avoid being bitten.” Of the 14 cases reported, six are neuroinvasive, which means victims were hospitalized with severe symptoms. Of the remaining cases, four reported West Nile fever, three were blood donors and one did not suffer any symptoms. “This year, in our area the age range for victims of West Nile virus has been from 10 to 88,” said Brown. “West Nile virus can affect anyone.”

While the weather is cooler and temperatures are dropping, mosquitoes are still active and the risk for infection still exists. With rain expected over the next few days and potentially warmer weather again next week, mosquitoes will continue to pose a threat.

The District urges all residents to inspect their homes on a weekly basis to drain any standing water and ensure they are not producing mosquitoes. It's also important to maintain any water features in their yards and report any neglected swimming pools which can produce hundreds of mosquitoes and affect entire neighborhoods.

To date, there are 278 human cases of West Nile virus in California compared to 323 cases at this time last year.

### **2008 West Nile virus activity update:**

**Level 5--Sacramento County: 14 humans, 274 mosquito samples, 116 dead birds, 6 sentinel chickens, and 1 horse** have tested positive for WNV to date.

**Level 4--Yolo County: 1 human, 17 mosquito samples, 6 dead birds, 1 horse and 0 sentinel chickens** have tested positive for WNV to date.

### **Practice the District D's of Mosquito Prevention:**

**DRAIN** standing water that may produce mosquitoes.

**DAWN** and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outdoors.

**DRESS** appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outside.

**DEFEND** yourself by using an effective insect repellent. Make sure to follow label directions!

**DOOR** and window screens should be in good working condition.

**DISTRICT** personnel are also available to address any mosquito problems. Call them at 1-800-429-1022 or visit [www.FIGHTtheBITE.net](http://www.FIGHTtheBITE.net)

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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