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**SACRAMENTO-YOLO MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES
"FIGHT THE BITE BUMPER STICKER" CONTEST WINNERS
-- The District continues its public education efforts**

ELK GROVE, Calif., December 29, 2006 –The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announced today the winners of the fall 2006 "FIGHT the BITE Bumper Sticker" contest. The awards recognize contestants who submitted creative bumper stickers that promoted the "FIGHT the BITE" theme and urges our community to practice the District's 7Ds of mosquito prevention. "We are extremely pleased with the overwhelming response," David Brown, District Manger said. "This fall, more than 300 entries were submitted by Sacramento and Yolo county students in grades K-12. We are confident that their participation in the contest will give them a better understanding of mosquito prevention and a lifelong awareness of the threat of mosquitoes and West Nile virus."

The "FIGHT the BITE Bumper Sticker Contest" winners are as follows:

	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3
	K – 3 Grade	4 – 8 Grade	9 – 12 Grade
1st Place	Michelle Eungie Seo	Alesya Leshchinskaya	Juan Agron
2nd Place	Ive Tillich	Kristen Lee	Jessica Damian
3rd Place	Megan Yamoah	Sydney Minges	Josephine Floresca

The District will award the winning students each with a cash prize: 1st place will receive \$150, 2nd place \$75 and 3rd place \$50. First place bumper stickers will be printed and available to the public during mosquito awareness week in mid-April. To view the winning entries please visit the District online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

For a photo opportunity, please call Jennifer Benito at 916.405.2082 or e-mail at jbenito@FIGHTtheBITE.net

7Ds

DRAIN any standing water that may produce mosquitoes. **DAWN** and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outdoors. These are the times when mosquitoes are most active. **DRESS** appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outside. **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 available to address any mosquito problem you may be experiencing by calling 1-800-429-1022 or visiting us online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

--MORE--

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West Nile virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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.

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

The **Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District** provides mosquito and vector control services for Sacramento and Yolo counties.

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