

# NEWS ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 15, 2007**

**Contact:** Jennifer Benito, Public Information Officer  
**Office:** 916.405.2082 | **Cell:** 916-416.6337  
**E-mail:** jbenito@fightthebite.net

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
**SACRAMENTO COUNTY**  
8631 BOND ROAD  
ELK GROVE, CA 95624

**YOLO COUNTY**  
1234 FORTNA AVENUE  
WOODLAND, CA 95695

1.800.429.1022  
[FIGHTtheBITE.net](http://FIGHTtheBITE.net)

## **MOSQUITO CONTROL'S COMMUNICATION EFFORTS RECEIVE INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION**

**-- Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District Receives 2 Awards**

**ELK GROVE, Calif.** – The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District recently received two honors from The Communicator Awards. The Communicator Awards is an international program recognizing creative and outstanding work in all areas of communications—print, video and audio. Entries are judged by industry professionals who look for companies and individuals whose talent exceeds a high standard of excellence and whose work serves as a benchmark for the industry. The District received one Award of Distinction and one Honorable Mention in the 2007 print competition.

“Building awareness at the local level of the work done to minimize the threat of mosquitoes and vector-borne diseases is fundamental. Whether developing educational contests and curriculum for K-12 students and teachers, or providing informational brochures to community organizations, our varied approach to public outreach is a testament to how we work to protect public health,” David Brown, District Manager said. “We are extremely honored that our efforts received such a wonderful recognition.”

For media inquiries please contact Jennifer Benito at 916.405.2082 or by e-mail [jbenito@FIGHTtheBITE.net](mailto: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](http://FIGHTtheBITE.net).

### **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.

**--MORE--**

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
**SACRAMENTO COUNTY**  
8631 BOND ROAD  
ELK GROVE, CA 95624

**YOLO COUNTY**  
1234 FORTNA AVENUE  
WOODLAND, CA 95695

1.800.429.1022  
FIGHTtheBITE.net

**2007 West Nile virus activity update**

**Level 2** - This year, **1 bird**, 0 sentinel chickens, 0 horses, 0 mosquito samples and 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

**2006 West Nile virus activity**

Sacramento County: 16 humans, 1 horse, 89 dead birds, 34 mosquito samples and 13 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus in 2006

Yolo County: 27 humans, 0 horses, 54 dead birds, 64 mosquito samples and 26 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus in 2006

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

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

###