

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SMOKY CONDITIONS DELAY SPRAYING TO CONTROL MOSQUITOES UNTIL PARTICULATE MATTER CLEARS

-High Risk area includes 23,000 acres over South Sacramento

Elk Grove, Calif. — The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announced today that current smoky conditions and poor air quality have delayed potential aerial treatments to control mosquitoes. “High mosquito infection rates indicate we should be considering spraying now” said David Brown, District Manager. “However, based on high particulate matter in the air, we are waiting for the right environmental conditions before we proceed with any aerial treatments”.

Weather conditions are forecast to change next week, at which time the District will reevaluate these conditions. If the decision to spray is made, it will occur for 3 consecutive days over the high risk areas. Currently the **areas of highest risk of West Nile virus transmission are in South Sacramento, including the Pocket Area plus 2.4 miles east to the Railroad line as well as the Florin/Elk Grove area from Elder Creek Rd. down to Elk Grove Blvd.** Growing concern over multiple positive dead birds and mosquito samples found in South Sacramento prompted District officials to consider the decision to spray. “Our goal is to protect public health and welfare” said Brown. “At this point aerial treatments may be necessary to prevent human illness and achieve this goal. However, until appropriate conditions exist to perform these treatments, we urge people to stay indoors when mosquitoes are most active”.

Due to poor weather conditions and high infection rate of mosquitoes, the District urges residents to remain vigilant and encourages everyone to protect themselves during the peak mosquito hours of dawn and dusk particularly in high risk areas. For a complete map and additional information visit the District website at www.FIGHTtheBITE.net Residents may also subscribe to mailing lists to receive email notifications for mosquito treatments by zip code. To sign up go to Spray Notifications on the website.

2008 West Nile virus activity update for Sacramento and Yolo counties
Level 2—**18 dead birds**, 0 sentinel chickens, **34 mosquito samples** and **0 humans** have tested positive for West Nile virus 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 be 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

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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