

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MOSQUITO CONTROL BESTOWS ECOLOGICAL MOSQUITO AWARD
--New Program Recognizes Innovative Way to Reduce Mosquito Populations

ELK GROVE, Calif. ,--- The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) announced the recipients of the second annual Ecological Mosquito Management Award that recognizes individuals or entities that have successfully reduced mosquito production on their property through the use of non-pesticide practices. "We are very happy to recognize individuals making a difference and doing their part to protect public health by controlling mosquitoes" said Joel Buettner, Ecological Management Supervisor for the District. The purpose of this award is to promote widespread voluntary use of Mosquito Reduction Best Management Practices and to identify and reward leaders in the use of these methods in Sacramento and Yolo counties.

The following are the recipients of the 2008 Ecological Management Award in the Agriculture, Urban, and Conservation categories:

Raymond Coupe or Pearson-Coupe Dairy of Galt received the award in the agricultural category for his work in keeping irrigation ditches and ponds clear of dense vegetation and making enhancements to improve drainage which all reduce mosquito production.

Sacramento County Drainage Operations received the award in the urban category for its commitment to assisting the maintenance of County-owned ditches, waterways, and culverts. In many cases, blockages to county facilities were caused by vegetation, sediment, or beaver dams. Close cooperation reduced mosquito development sites and the need for treatment.

Harry McQuillen, Manager of the Cosumnes River Preserve received the award in the conservation category for his efforts to increase cooperation between the District and Preserve over the past two years. This has resulted in better communication and projects to reduce mosquito production from habitat areas and organic rice fields.

More information regarding Ecological Management and Mosquito Reduction Best Management Practices can be found at: www.FIGHTtheBITE.net/ecoman/.

District's 7Ds of mosquito prevention:

DRAIN any 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 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.

DISTRICT personnel are also available to address any mosquito problem you may be experiencing by calling 1-800-429-1022 or visiting the District online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

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