

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AERIAL TREATMENT OVER SOUTH SACRAMENTO REDUCES MOSQUITOES BY 50 PERCENT

--Mosquitoes and West Nile Virus Continue To Be A Concern

Elk Grove, Calif.— The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) announced today that aerial treatments conducted July 16-18, over the Pocket and Elk Grove /Florin Area in South Sacramento were successful in reducing adult mosquito populations by 50 percent. “We’re very pleased with these results,” said Gary Goodman District Assistant Manager. “Our goal was to see a significant reduction in the adult mosquito population that could pose a threat to public health and we were able to achieve this through our aerial treatments.” Results were measured using pre and post mosquito trapping in both treated and untreated areas.

Though no future aerial applications are planned at this time, many new mosquito samples and dead birds positive for West Nile virus have been found in North Sacramento. “We’re concerned about increased activity in North Sacramento” said Goodman. “We’re asking the public to remain vigilant and do their part in reducing mosquitoes around their home. Remember to drain sources of standing water, report abandoned swimming pools and wear an effective repellent if you’re outside during dawn and dusk.”

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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From the beginning of the season until now, the District has seen increased mosquito and virus activity in comparison to 2007. Thus far, 120 mosquito samples and 40 dead birds have tested positive for West Nile virus. At this same time last year, the District had only seen 27 positive mosquito samples and 43 birds. No human cases have been reported in our District, although neighboring San Joaquin County has seen 1 human case and Stanislaus County has registered 3 human cases. The first West Nile virus death has been recorded in Arizona.

2008 West Nile virus activity update:

Sacramento County: 40 dead birds, 0 sentinel chickens, 120 mosquito samples and 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

Yolo County: 1 dead bird, 0 sentinel chickens, 1 mosquito sample and 0 humans.

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