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TWO MORE DEAD BIRDS TEST POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE VIRUS
--SYMVCD's Ongoing Surveillance Program Detects West Nile Virus Activity

ELK GROVE, Calif., July 6, 2006 – The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (SYMVCD) received confirmation today that a Yellow-billed Magpie found in the Elverta area of Sacramento County and an American Crow found in Davis, California have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). This reaffirms West Nile virus activity for Sacramento and Yolo Counties. "This is the second detection of WNV we have seen in the Northwest portion of Sacramento County. It is extremely important that people put on a good repellent when mosquitoes are active. Also, people need to continue to drain all sources of standing water that may support mosquito breeding habitats, add mosquitofish to small ponds and bird baths and report unmaintained swimming pools to the District." District Manager David Brown said. "We need to continue to work together to keep mosquito populations down," Brown said.

7Ds

The public is strongly urged to practice the District's **7Ds**: **DRAIN** any standing water that may produce mosquitoes. **DAWN** and **DUSK** are times to avoid. These are the times when mosquitoes are most active. **DRESS** appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors. **DEFEND** yourself against mosquitoes by using an effective insect repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Make sure you follow all label directions! **DOOR** and window screens should be in good working condition. This will prevent mosquitoes from entering your home. **DISTRICT** personnel are also available to address any mosquito problem you may be experiencing. We can be reached at 1-800-429-1022 or visit us online at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

West Nile virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control (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.

West Nile virus activity for Sacramento and Yolo Counties: This year, **5** dead birds, **2** mosquito pools, **0** sentinel chickens, **0** equines and **0** humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

The District is at LEVEL 2 of their response plan

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.

Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District provides mosquito and vector control services for Sacramento and Yolo Counties.

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