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**MOSQUITO CONTROL RE-LAUNCHES FIGHT THE BITE WEB SITE**  
**--New Design Is More User Friendly**

**ELK GROVE, Calif.**, July 6, 2006 – In an effort to continue to provide excellent community service to the residents of Sacramento and Yolo Counties, the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District has revamped its Web site. The new Fight the Bite Web site is designed to deliver information in a more user-friendly manner for visitors from all walks of life. "Our new site is laid out in a manner where the public can easily access information that is pertinent to them. Visitors can peruse with ease and flexibility." District Manager, David Brown said. "Scientific information can be daunting for many visitors so we modified the format and made it simple. We encourage the public to start visiting our new Web site today at FIGHTtheBITE.net," Brown said.

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 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 by calling 1-800-429-1022 or visit the District 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**

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

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