

Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District 42624 6th St. East Lancaster, CA 93535 (661) 942-2917 www.avmosquito.org

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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More Mosquitoes Test Positive for West Nile Virus in Lancaster, CA

West Nile virus is endemic in the Antelope Valley and the Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District continues to urge residents to take precautions against mosquito bites!

Lancaster, CA: Mosquitoes collected from a mosquito trap in Lancaster tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). The trap was located near Division and Lancaster Boulevard. This is the third positive West Nile virus detection within District boundaries for the 2020 season.

"Once again, we want to reach out to the community and remind them of the importance of practicing personal mosquito control measures. Mosquito control is a shared responsibility between the District and the residents. This detection of additional West Nile virus positive mosquito samples reinforces the importance of keeping the mosquito population low." says District Manager Cei Kratz. "The entire community will benefit from less mosquitoes and less chances of mosquito-borne diseases, such as West Nile virus." Kratz states. AVMVCD personnel will continue to conduct intensive searches of the entire District to keep mosquito populations low and reduce the chances of residents getting ill. To report a green pool or mosquito nuisance, please call (661) 942-2917

The District also urges residents to do their part to protect themselves from mosquito bites by following these recommendations:

• Check property for standing water and get rid of it

• When mosquitoes are active, use EPA registered insect repellents that contain one of these main ingredients: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, IR3535

• Make sure your screens on windows and doors are in good repair to avoid mosquitoes in the home

• Check around faucets. Irrigation systems and air conditioner units, and repair leaks or puddles that remain for several days

• Report stagnant pools and other backyard sources to the AVMVCD at 661-942-2917

• Report dead birds by calling 1-877-WNV-BIRD (877-968-2473) or online at <u>www.westnile.ca.gov</u>

To stay up-to-date on new West Nile Virus activity in the Antelope Valley and any mosquito related information visit our website at <u>www.avmosquito.org</u>, Facebook page (<u>https://www.facebook.com/avmosquito</u>), and follow us on Twitter and Instagram @AVMosquito.

For any further questions or services please feel free to contact the Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District by phone (661-942-2917).

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