

THE VALLEY BUZZ



JUNE 2022



   @avmosquito

June Update



SCAN ME!



BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB

Hello Antelope Valley!

Mosquito season is back in full swing in the Antelope Valley! Our peak mosquito season runs from approximately April to October. In the Fall, mosquito abundance starts to drop off as the weather cools, but it doesn't fully stop. Southern California can have moderate enough Winters that mosquitoes can still thrive despite the cooler temperatures.

We want to remind the community that the District provides no-charge mosquito control services to our residents that fall within District boundaries. Whether you are noticing mosquitoes, have an unmaintained swimming pool or see standing water around town, we are here to help you solve your mosquito problem! Our main priority is and always will be to protect the public health of our citizens through our integrated mosquito management program. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

In addition to addressing unmaintained pools, handling service requests and assisting residents with proper mosquito control measures, our Field Technicians also monitor ditches, basins, curbs, gutters and storm drains weekly for mosquito activity and treat any breeding sources as needed. Furthermore, we perform mosquito trapping and surveillance on a weekly rotation throughout the District. This gives us data regarding mosquito abundance, mosquito species and disease detection.

The District is currently in the process of doing a Proposition 218 Assessment in order to garner a small increase in funding that is necessary in order to keep providing the community with the high level of public health mosquito control services that we currently offer. We need the community's participation in this measure and are eager to hear back from you! Ballots have already hit residences and businesses. The last day to respond is July 5th, 2022. We look forward to your participation!

DID YOU KNOW?!

YOU CAN HELP!



If you notice daytime biting mosquitoes, CALL US! We can do an inspection, help you find the origin of the problem and place traps in your yard for surveillance of the mosquitoes.

If interested, please reach out at:

- Phone: 661.942.2917
- AVmosquito.org/contact-us
- E-mail: info@avmosquito.org



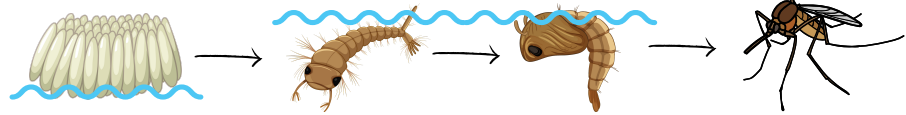


TECHNICIAN'S TIPS

“ One of the biggest contributors to the Antelope Valley mosquito problem are the dirty/unkept swimming pools.



Mosquitoes need two main things to thrive: warm weather (this is why you notice mosquitoes the most during Spring and Summer) and a source of dirty stagnant water. Over the course of about a week, the mosquito life cycle takes place in four stages: The adult mosquito lays her eggs on the surface of standing water, larvae hatch out into the water, eventually turn into pupae, and then flying adults hatch out of the pupal casing. Once mosquitoes are flying adults, they have the ability to bite and transmit diseases and are thus considered a very real public health nuisance.



One of the biggest contributors to the Antelope Valley mosquito problem are the dirty/unkept swimming pools. As soon as warm weather hits, these unmaintained pools become a mosquito haven. Standing water containing organic matter provides the perfect habitat for mosquitoes to thrive. Just one unkept swimming pool can create hundreds of thousands of mosquitoes over the course of a few weeks. Every mosquito season, the District identifies anywhere from 800 to 1,700 unmaintained swimming pools. This is not only a nuisance and a public health issue that impacts the home owner, but it also causes mosquito problems in the surrounding neighborhood.

The District is able to hone in on nuisance pools with the help of our annual aerial flyover. The flyover helps us identify and address nuisance pools to reduce the number of disease spreading mosquitoes throughout the Antelope Valley. This year, the flyover took place on June 6th. Pool notices for swimming pools that are identified as a potential mosquito source will be going out in a few weeks. The system isn't perfect, so it will sometimes detect pool covers or dark bottom pools as unmaintained. Regardless, the solution is simple. Feel free to refer to our website at: www.avmosquito.org/clean-pools-healthy-communities for more information.

We recommend that pools are always kept clean and maintained or completely dry at all times. Mosquito control is very much a community effort and ensuring that your pool is maintained will help protect the health of you, your loved ones and our community!

But why don't mosquitoes like my clean pool?

- 1.) Mosquitoes don't tend to like the chemicals in a maintained pool.
- 2.) They need a source of organic matter (algae, bug remains, leaves etc...) to eat.
- 3.) The filter can create movement in the water that will drown mosquito larvae (although they live in water, they have to return to the surface to breathe).

Contact us!
M-Th 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
Fri 8:00 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M.
661.942.2917
www.avmosquito.org

Report a mosquito nuisance/dirty Pool:

info@avmosquito.org
avmosquito.org/contact-us.html
661.942.2917

Happiness and Health,
The Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District