

THE VALLEY BUZZ

AUGUST 2020



ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT



@avmosquito

August Update

BY BRENN A BATES-GRUBB

Hello Antelope Valley!

Throughout the COVID-19 situation, mosquito control is still here for you! Our office is operating and our technicians are out in the field fulfilling our mission of mosquito control for the betterment of public health.

Some aspects of our operations such as private property inspections and community outreach events and presentations are still temporarily halted to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure for our staff members and the community. Our office is still closed to foot traffic for now, but is operating Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for phone calls or email correspondence.

In June we conducted our aerial flyover to identify green/unkempt pools within District boundaries. Unkempt pools are one of the biggest sources of mosquito breeding that we face. Just one unkempt pool has the potential to breed millions of mosquitoes over the course of a month.

Approximately 2,100 pools were identified as a potential breeding source for mosquitoes, and we have been working hard with the public to make sure these standing water sources are eliminated or treated until they can be properly maintained or drained completely dry. If you need to report a green pool, please call the District at (661) 942-2917 or email Leann@avmosquito.org.

On July 30th, we did detect our first two West Nile virus positive mosquito samples of the season near 15th Street West and Avenue K. This is a great reminder for the community to stay vigilant. View the Press Release at www.avmosquito.org for more information and tips on how to stay safe. The District will keep the community up to date on any additional positive results as they occur.

DID YOU KNOW?!

.....you can enjoy the outdoors and be protected from both the sun and insect bites? You just have to:



1.) Apply sunscreen SPF 30 or higher that protects against UVA and UVB radiation generously to exposed skin* and reapply according to product label.

*As recommended by the California Department of Public Health

2.) Apply insect repellent over the sunscreen. Always be sure to follow the label instructions!





TECHNICIAN'S TIPS

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"Sources of moving water such as flowing fountains are virtually impossible for mosquitoes to thrive in"

As a District, we are constantly putting an emphasis on eliminating standing water. The follow-up question is probably: "But why eliminate standing water?". Let us tell you why.

Mosquitoes rely on water. They need it for every life-cycle stage for different reasons. In the egg, larval and pupal stages, they live and eat in the water. And then as flying adults, they once again return to water to lay their eggs. The catch is that mosquitoes do not breathe in the water. They have to return to the surface of the water to breathe oxygen out of a siphon tube on the end of their abdomen.

This is the reason why mosquito control professionals place an emphasis on eliminating sources of standing or stagnant water. When the water is still, the mosquitoes are able to return to the surface of the water to breathe. Sources of moving water such as flowing fountains, waterfall features or birdbaths, ponds or pools with filters or pumps that continuously circulate the water are virtually impossible for mosquitoes to thrive in because they will be unable to return to the surface of the water to breathe. So, be sure to eliminate those sources of standing water and keep your yard water features flowing and in good repair!

Contact us!

M-F 8:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.
661.942.2917
www.avmosquito.org



Report a mosquito nuisance/dirty Pool:

Leann@avmosquito.org
avmosquito.org/contact-us.html