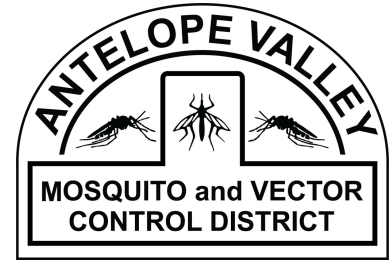


THE VALLEY BUZZ

SEPTEMBER 2021



@avmosquito

September Update



SCAN ME!



BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB

Hello Antelope Valley!

Throughout the COVID-19 situation, we have continued to serve the community. Mosquito control is an important facet of Public Health and doesn't stop even when there is a different Public Health crisis occurring. The District is operating and our technicians are out in the field fulfilling our mission of mosquito control for the betterment of public health.

Throughout the month of August, the District continued to locate areas where *Aedes* mosquitoes are present. The location of the original *Aedes* mosquito discovery for the 2021 season was near Q and 40th Street East. As the month progressed and mosquito surveillance continued, the *Aedes* mosquitoes appeared to be gradually spreading west towards 30th East and South towards Avenue R. If you live in this area and notice aggressive daytime mosquitoes, be sure to contact the District at 661.942.2917.

Aedes mosquitoes have are able to carry and transmit very different diseases than our local *Culex* mosquitoes. They can carry tropical diseases such as Zika, Yellow Fever, dengue and chikungunya. There have been no detections of these diseases in the local mosquito population yet, but it remains of utmost important to keep the *Aedes* mosquito population low. The lower the mosquito population, the less chance of these diseases making their way into the local mosquito population.

Up to this point in the 2021 mosquito season, no mosquito samples have tested positive for West Nile virus in the Antelope Valley. We will keep the public up to date on any disease detections.

DID YOU KNOW?!

YOU CAN HELP!

Clearing debris out of gutters and drains near your home can help prevent mosquitoes! This will help the water flow freely into a basin and not sit stagnant in your neighborhoods.





TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



By paying attention to certain aspects of your lawn, landscaping and yard features, you will have more tools in your arsenal in the battle against mosquitoes.



A more common known fact is that mosquitoes use stagnant water to complete their lifecycle and that getting rid of things that trap water in your yard, like old tires, can reduce or eliminate a mosquito problem. What's not so well known is that there is another way to keep your local mosquito population in check: With landscaping and yard maintenance. By paying attention to certain aspects of your lawn, landscaping and yard features, you will have more tools in your arsenal in the battle against mosquitoes.



Lawn and Weeds: During the heat of the day, mosquitoes rest in cool shady areas for protection. Mowing lawns and keeping weeds/overgrowth to a minimum will help reduce mosquitoes by making their living conditions less ideal.

Water Features/Yard Items: Many common yard items can hold water and become a source of mosquitoes. These are some of the most common yard decor items that we've found to be a mosquito nuisance: 1.) Firepits that don't have proper drainage--always be sure that there is a way for rain or sprinkler water to drain out of the firepit. 2.) Bird baths--dump out and refresh at least weekly to flush out potential eggs or larvae 3.) Defunct fountains--the stagnant water is a mosquito paradise. Ensuring the fountain is flowing and circulating will make it uninhabitable for mosquitoes. 4.) Flower pots/saucers, vases or other decorative yard items: Be sure flower pots and decorative containers have holes in the bottom to drain. Be careful not to overwater plants or allow water to pool in plant saucers.

Low Spots/Yard drains: Yard drains are a frequently forgotten yard feature that can breed mosquitoes. Always be sure to check that they aren't holding water. Low spots in the yard can pool water and are another mosquito haven. Always try to eliminate any poorly drained low spots in the yard so that water can't puddle and sit stagnant.

Junk: A buildup of junk/unused items, old appliances, old tires, tarps, trash, cars and so on all have hundreds of nooks and crannies that can hold standing water. Removing junk and unused items or storing them where they can't collect water will help eliminate a mosquito problem!

Contact us!

M-Th 8:00 A.M. TO 3:30 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