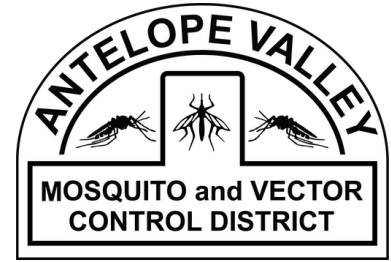


THE VALLEY BUZZ

MAY 2023



ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT



May Update



BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB
COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST

Hello Antelope Valley!

It's officially mosquito season! With this excessively rainy winter and some continuing rain this spring, there are many sources of standing water around town. The District is already receiving service requests and we are out treating green pools and public areas of standing water within our District boundaries. As much of the community knows, our proposition to the community for their vote to increase our funding did not pass. As a result, we are working with a reduced crew and unfortunately have reduced services. We not only ask for the community's patience as we navigate this new set of circumstances, but we also want to remind the community about the importance of personal mosquito control measures, now more than ever. Mosquito control is a shared responsibility between residents and the District and everyone must do their part.

Personal mosquito control measures include:

- Eliminating sources of standing water around your property weekly
- Eliminating any unused items that can hold standing water
- Keeping windows and doors shut or properly screened
- Refreshing pet water and bird baths at least weekly
- Keeping pools, fountains, ponds and other water features fully maintained or completely dry throughout the season.

Visit our website: <https://www.avmosquito.org/how-you-can-help> for more ideas on how to prevent mosquitoes around your home.

DID YOU KNOW?!

It is Crane Fly season, too! Are you seeing 'GIANT mosquitoes'? If so, don't worry..... they are just Crane Flies.

Crane Flies are harmless, albeit clumsy and a little startling sometimes. They don't bite or spread disease like pesky mosquitoes.

Also, contrary to popular belief, although they are often referred to as 'mosquito eaters', Crane Flies do not eat mosquitoes.



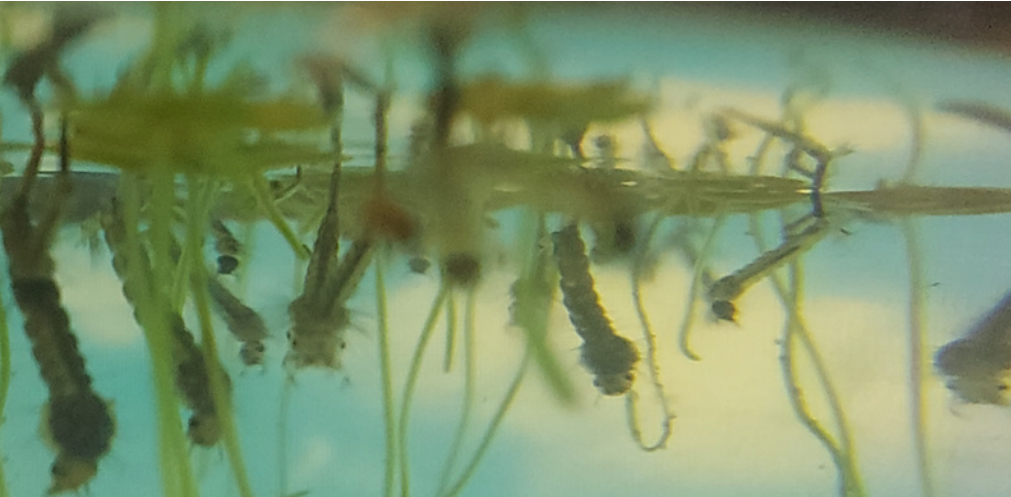
Mosquito

Crane Fly






TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



“
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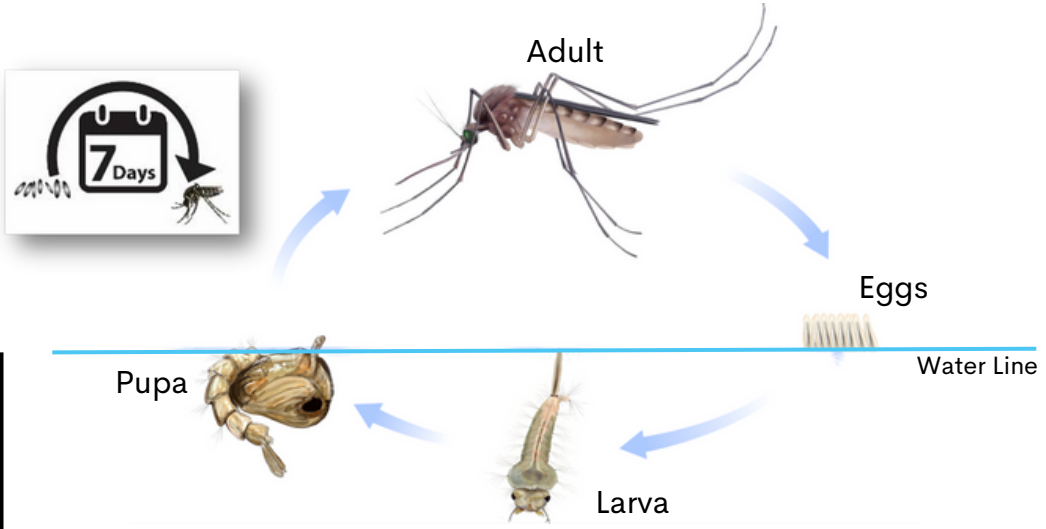


Ever wonder why the District encourages the elimination of standing water sources as one of our tried and true methods of mosquito control? This is because mosquitoes are aquatic in the first three stages of life. The female mosquito will find a source of still/standing water and lay her eggs on top. The larvae hatch out into the water and go through a few growth stages (called instars). Eventually, the larvae turn into pupae and after a short time, adult mosquitoes hatch out of the pupal casing and into the air.

It isn't until the adult stage that mosquitoes can bite and transmit disease. If the community gets rid of the sources of water that immature mosquitoes are living in, then we can prevent the adult mosquito issue from ever happening..... and fend off a public health threat as a result. This is why, even through decades of mosquito control and scientific advancements, source reduction remains a crucial facet of mosquito control.

It is important to practice source reduction on at least a weekly basis. This is because the mosquito lifecycle take approximately five to seven days from egg to adult mosquito. If source reduction happens at least weekly, then the lifecycle is intercepted at some stage before adulthood. Take a look at the mosquito lifecycle graphic below.

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