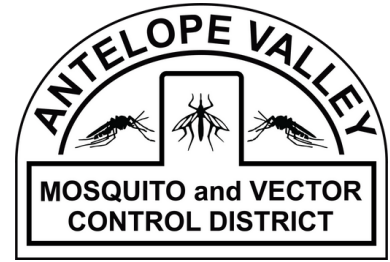


THE VALLEY BUZZ

OCTOBER 2023



ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT



October Update

SCAN ME!



BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB
COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST

Hello Antelope Valley!

Fall is definitely in the air, but everyone here at the District would like to remind the community that mosquitoes stay active in California well into Autumn. During Fall, the weather in Southern California is temperate enough to allow mosquito breeding to continue. Until the weather starts to regularly dip into the 50's at night, there will still be significant mosquito activity. It is important for residents to stay vigilant by taking personal mosquito control measures. Successful mosquito control relies on both the efforts of the community as well as the mosquito control professionals. Our staff will continue to treat green pools and public areas of standing water within our District boundaries. Please report unmaintained pools to us at: 661.942.2917

Personal mosquito control measures include:

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

DID YOU KNOW?!

Rain gutters are a common place for mosquitoes to breed! If rain gutters are blocked by leaves and debris, it can cause water to build up and create a perfect source of standing water for mosquitoes to lay their eggs in. Be sure to keep rain gutters cleared out so the water can flow freely through them and not sit stagnant in the gutters.





TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



These items are perfect for me to lay my eggs in!



AEDES MOSQUITOES PREFER SMALL CONTAINERS OF STANDING WATER. MAJORITY OF THESE SOURCES ARE ON RESIDENTS PROPERTIES AND ARE MOSTLY INACCESSIBLE TO THE DISTRICT



Invasive Aedes mosquitoes have really begun to rear their ugly head this season. The District first identified Aedes mosquitoes in the Antelope Valley in 2018, and every year since, they have become more established throughout the District. The warm rains this 2023 year have allowed them to breed prolifically. Aedes mosquitoes are aggressive biters, biting all day long from dawn until dusk and even at night time if it is well-lit. Aedes mosquitoes prefer to live close to dwellings as their bite of choice is humans.

With increase in Aedes Aegypti activity in the Antelope Valley, the role the public plays in mosquito control increases even more. Contrary to our native Culex mosquitoes, Aedes mosquitoes prefer small containers of standing water. Majority of these sources are on residents properties and are mostly inaccessible to the District. This makes control of this species very difficult.

The invasive, black-and-white mosquitoes can lay their eggs individually along the waterline of any water-holding container such as flower vases, plant saucers, buckets, used tires, and even plants that hold water like bamboo or bromeliads. Eggs can remain alive for years, and hatch into larvae when conditions are right. This reduces the effectiveness of "dump and drain" that is very effective for our native mosquitoes. These mosquitoes can live and complete their life cycle either indoors or outdoors.

If you have an Aedes mosquito problem, walk your entire property and look for any container, both natural and manmade that can hold more than a teaspoon of water. Separate the containers into 3 categories: 1.) Those that can be thrown away 2.) Those that can be scrubbed down and stored in a dry place and 3.) Permanent fixtures that will remain in the yard and require permanent inspection. Inspect your property weekly, and especially after it rains to dump and drain any containers holding water.

Visit our website to learn more about Aedes mosquitoes and how you can prevent them: <https://www.avmosquito.org/invasive-aedes-mosquitoes>

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 DIRTY POOL!

info@avmosquito.org

avmosquito.org/contact-us.html

661.942.2917

Happiness and Health,

The Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District