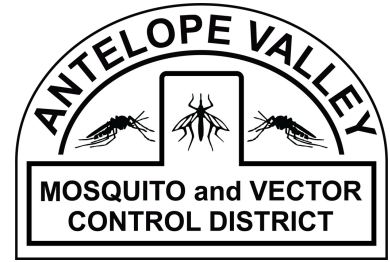


THE VALLEY BUZZ



AUGUST 2023



August Update



BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB
COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST

Hello Antelope Valley!

The District has been receiving service requests and staff are out treating green pools and public areas of standing water within our District boundaries. Technicians are consistently finding breeding in known hotspots around town. We want to remind the community to take personal mosquito control measures to reduce the likelihood of creating a mosquito nuisance and getting bitten by mosquitoes.

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 and bird baths at least weekly
- Keeping pools, fountains, ponds and other water features fully maintained or completely dry throughout the season

The District has identified Aedes mosquitoes in a new location in Palmdale for the second time this 2023 season. This location is near Division and Barbara Lane in Palmdale. Aedes mosquitoes can spread diseases like Yellow Fever, Dengue Fever, Chikungunya and Zika Virus. Keeping them mitigated is of utmost importance.

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

DID YOU KNOW?!

Citronella candles are only effective at repelling mosquitoes in the immediate radius around the candle and in the absence of a breeze. Unfortunately, some types of mosquitoes (such as the Aedes mosquitoes) prefer to feed off the lower extremities of the body like the ankles, away from candles on table tops. To provide long lasting coverage, use an insect repellent product that contains one of the recommended ingredients: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or IR3535.





TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



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Oh how we wish lighting a candle could fix a backyard mosquito problem but the reality is that it just doesn't.



There are a lot of myths around what may or may not be helpful in repelling mosquitoes. Let's talk about what is effective and what is not effective.

• **Essential Oils:**

A lot of people seek a more "natural" way to repel mosquitoes by applying essential oils to their skin, but insect repellents with these oils only work for a few minutes, they are unregulated, and can be toxic.

• **Citronella and Lavender Plants:**

Like the citronella candle, citronella plants, if at all, only provide protection for the immediate area around them. Lavender plants are also a popular choice but just like citronella, they are ineffective at repelling mosquitoes. Both plants can also create a potential breeding source if they are grown in a pot with a saucer because of the water that could accumulate in the pot saucer

• **Bug Zappers:**

Bug zappers are great at attracting insects, and while they may eliminate some mosquitoes, bug zappers attract and destroy mostly non-mosquito insects.

Oh how we wish lighting a candle could fix a backyard mosquito problem, but the reality is that it just doesn't. DIY mosquito control methods like the ones listed are quite ineffective and can cost unnecessary money and cause frustration. Mosquitoes are prolific breeders that can lay thousands of eggs in standing water in just a matter of weeks. While traps, bug lights and other contraptions might help kill a few of the adult mosquitoes, they won't get rid of their eggs. Removing standing water regularly will eliminate the eggs and thus eliminate the potential for those eggs to mature into nuisance adults. This will reduce the presence of mosquitoes on your property. Be sure to keep pools fully maintained and eliminate any sources of standing water at least weekly.

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

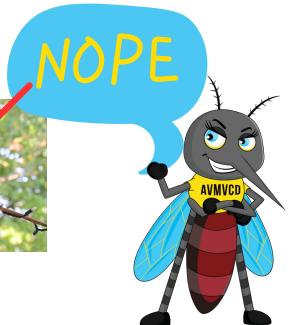
www.avmosquito.org

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