

THE VALLEY BUZZ

APRIL 2021



ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT



@avmosquito

April Update

BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB

Hello Antelope Valley!

We are happy to be back with our first mosquito-season newsletter of 2021. This newsletter is to keep the community up-to-date on local mosquito control issues and disease detections, and provide useful mosquito control information.

Throughout the COVID-19 situation, we have continued to serve the community. Mosquito control is its own 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. Our office is still currently closed to foot traffic, but is operating Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for phone calls or email correspondence.

As the weather warms up, it is important to remember that with the warm weather comes mosquitoes! "Mosquito Season" in the Antelope Valley runs from approximately April through October. Mosquitoes thrive in warm weather so mosquito season starts slowly in Spring, peaks in Summer and tapers off slowly into the Fall. Although mosquito season does taper off into Fall, in most areas of Southern California, it doesn't completely stop. It is important to stay vigilant with mosquito control measures year-round.

Close to the end of 2020, we launched our updated website www.avmosquito.org so go check it out! A plethora of useful information can be found there! Also be sure to follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter @AVmosquito. We update those sites regularly with mosquito-control tips and up-to-date disease detections. The District will inform the community about any positive disease results and invasive Aedes mosquito detections as they occur throughout the season.

DID YOU KNOW?!

Mosquitoes are attracted to a combo of body heat, odor, carbon dioxide that humans emit when they breathe, and lactic acid (an element found in sweat).

Mosquitoes find some people to have a more appealing combination of these body chemicals.

Approximately 85% of the reason mosquitoes are attracted to certain people over others all comes down to body chemistry. You can't control whether or not you are a mosquito magnet.

That is why wearing repellent and clothes that cover as much skin as possible is the tried and true way to prevent mosquito bites. Always be sure to follow label instructions when applying repellent.





TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



There is no cure for mosquito-borne illnesses so prevention of mosquito bites is of utmost importance. It only takes one bite!

Since warm weather is upon us, our technicians would like to remind the community about some of the most common places they find mosquito breeding. Mosquitoes can reproduce and make their homes in the most unsuspecting of places. Take a look below!

Storage Containers



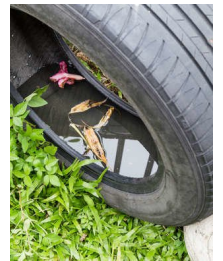
Trashcan Lids



Flower Pots



Old Tires



Pools



Buckets



Broken Water Features



Kids Toys



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

With the increase in outdoor dining due to COVID-19, some of our colleagues in the Los Angeles area have noticed an uptick in mosquito nuisances related to the water-filled weights that hold down outdoor dining tents. We are aware of the potential new source and will continue to check these items for mosquito breeding. To be sure you are not breeding mosquitoes, change the water weekly or ensure that the weights are sealed properly so mosquitoes cannot make entry to lay their eggs.

Outdoor activities are also on the rise due to the continued need for social distancing during the Covid19 pandemic. Insect repellent is a crucial part of outdoor activity. There is no cure for mosquito-borne illnesses so prevention of mosquito bites is of utmost importance. It only takes one bite!

The District recommends using a repellent that contains one of these active ingredients: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or IR3535. The active ingredient will be listed on the front of the bottle. The higher the percentage that is listed, the longer the coverage will last. Always be sure to follow label instructions.

Report a mosquito nuisance/dirty Pool:

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

Happiness and Health,
The Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District