



**Antelope Valley Mosquito
& Vector Control District**
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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Contact:

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More Mosquitoes Test Positive for West Nile Virus in Palmdale, CA

Lancaster, CA: Mosquitoes collected from various mosquito traps in Palmdale have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). The traps were located near 6th Street East and Avenue R, 20th Street East and Avenue S, and 25th St. East and Avenue R-6.

“So far we have sent in 92 mosquito samples this year, nine of which have been positive for West Nile virus”, states District Entomologist, Karen Mellor. “At this time last year we had five West Nile virus positive samples that were all in Lancaster.”

Mosquito control is a shared responsibility between the District and the residents. Keeping the mosquito population low will reduce the chances of disease transmission and the entire community will benefit from less mosquitoes.

West Nile virus is endemic in the Antelope Valley. This means that it is regularly found in the Antelope Valley every mosquito season. The District urges residents to take precautions against mosquito bites by following these recommendations:

- Check property for standing water and get rid of it
- When mosquitoes are active, use EPA registered insect repellents that contain one of these main ingredients: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, IR3535
- Make sure your screens on windows and doors are in good repair to avoid mosquitoes in the home
- Check around faucets. Irrigation systems and air conditioner units, and repair leaks or puddles that remain for several days
- Report stagnant pools and other backyard sources to the AVMVCD at 661-942-2917
- Report dead birds by calling 1-877-WNV-BIRD (877-968-2473) or online at www.westnile.ca.gov

AVMVCD personnel will continue to conduct intensive searches of the entire District to keep mosquito populations low and reduce the chances of residents getting ill.

To report a green pool or mosquito nuisance, please call (661) 942-2917

To stay up-to-date on new West Nile Virus activity in the Antelope Valley and any mosquito related information visit our website at www.avmosquito.org, Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/avmosquito>), and follow us on Twitter and Instagram @AVMosquito.

For any further questions or services please feel free to contact the Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District by phone (661-942-2917).

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