

# ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

# THE VALLEY BUZZ



APRIL 2026



   @avmosquito

## April Update



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COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST

Hello Antelope Valley!

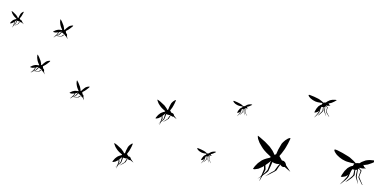
Mosquito season came in hot with some rains and a quick warming in temperatures. Our "mosquito season" started about a month early compared to other years. Our surveillance efforts have shown that mosquito activity around town is starting to pick up. We have already been receiving service requests and addressing them as they arise. Unmaintained pools remain a very important priority for our technicians to attend to, as they are one of the main breeding sources of the West Nile virus mosquito. So far, mosquito activity levels are still in line with what we usually see during this time of year, although with the warm weather coming just around the corner, we anticipate much more mosquito activity soon. It is important that residents stay vigilant with proper personal mosquito control measures.

### 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 to prevent mosquitoes in the home
- 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

Our mosquito control technicians are actively out in the field treating public sources of standing water and monitoring mosquito populations. Our surveillance technician has made the first detection of the *Aedes* mosquito for the 2026 season near J-10 and 25<sup>th</sup> Street East. These efforts are crucial, but community involvement makes a big difference especially when it comes to mitigating the invasive *Aedes* mosquito that usually tends to breed in small, backyard sources of standing water that our technicians don't have regular access to. If you're receiving bites or are aware of an unmaintained swimming pool or other standing water source, please report it to us. Your input helps us target mosquito hotspots more effectively and keeps our neighborhoods healthier and more comfortable. Together, we can reduce mosquito breeding and protect the health and comfort of our community.

Scan here for more ways to prevent mosquitoes around your home:



### DID YOU KNOW?!

Mosquitoes require stagnant water to complete their lifecycle. The female mosquito lays her eggs on stagnant water, then the larvae hatch out and grow in the water. Soon they turn into pupae and then the adult mosquito hatches out of the pupal casing into the air. It only takes about a tablespoon of water for mosquitoes to be able to complete their lifecycle. This means that any tiny container that can hold water for 3 or more days can potentially be a source of mosquitoes. Get rid of stagnant water and any containers that can possibly hold water.





## TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



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Crane flies are harmless. They don't bite or spread disease. They don't even have a proper mouthpiece in their adult form to bite.



The very wet winter and quick warm-up caused a very large influx of a variety of flying insects. There are many different types of flies and midges that have appeared in large numbers for the spring. Most of the service calls we have been getting at the District have been regarding 'gigantic mosquitoes' in high numbers. It turns out that the 'gigantic mosquitoes' everyone has been seeing are actually crane flies. Crane flies are harmless. They don't bite or spread disease. In fact, they don't even have a proper mouthpiece in their adult form to bite. They just kind of bumble around clumsily for up to a few weeks pollinating along the way and eventually complete their life. Crane flies are also a great food source for birds, so just scoot them back out the door if they happen to make their way inside. Crane flies are often referred to as 'mosquito hawks' because there is a misconception that crane flies eat mosquitoes..... but...plot twist.... they don't actually eat mosquitoes (although it would be nice if they did).

It is also important to note that mosquitoes don't tend to swarm in a traditional sense like other flying insects. If you are seeing large groups or clouds of flying insects, they are likely not mosquitoes. Another way to gauge whether or not you are dealing with mosquitoes is whether or not you are receiving bites. If you are dealing with large numbers of flying insects and not receiving bites, it is likely not mosquitoes.

### Contact us!

M-Th 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Fri 8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

661.942.2917

[www.avmosquito.org](http://www.avmosquito.org)

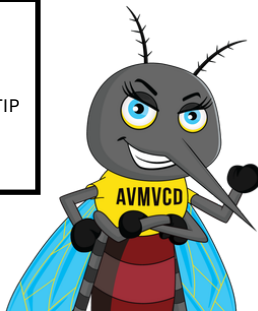
### REPORT A DIRTY POOL!

[info@avmosquito.org](mailto:info@avmosquito.org)

[WWW.AVMOSQUITO.ORG/SUBMIT-A-TIP](http://WWW.AVMOSQUITO.ORG/SUBMIT-A-TIP)

661.942.2917

Scan here to learn more about how you can get rid of *Aedes* mosquitoes around your home!



Happiness and Health,

The Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District