



**Antelope Valley Mosquito  
and Vector Control District**  
42624 6<sup>th</sup> Street East  
Lancaster, CA 93535  
**(661) 942-2917**  
[www.avmosquito.org](http://www.avmosquito.org)

## Press Release

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### For Immediate Release

**October 6th, 2020**

**Contact:** Brenna Bates-Grubb-Community Outreach Specialist  
Karen Mellor-Entomologist

### **More Mosquitoes, One Human Test Positive for West Nile Virus in Antelope Valley, CA**

*West Nile virus is endemic in the Antelope Valley and the Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District continues to urge residents to take precautions against mosquito bites!*

Lancaster, CA: More mosquitoes collected from mosquito traps in Palmdale have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). One trap was located near 25th Street West and Avenue P-8. The other trap was located near 30<sup>th</sup> Street East and Avenue R. To date, there have been 13 West Nile positive mosquito samples for the 2020 mosquito season. Public Health also reported another human case of West Nile virus within District boundaries, which brings the local human West Nile virus count to 7 cases.

The District would like to reinforce the importance of keeping the mosquito population low. The lower the mosquito abundance, the less opportunity there is to have an issue with mosquito-borne disease transmission. Brenna Bates-Grubb, Community Outreach Specialist for the AVMVCD states that “There is no vaccine or cure for West Nile virus, so the best way to stay safe is through prevention of mosquito bites. Prevent mosquitoes

from breeding around your home by eliminating sources of standing water at least weekly and wear mosquito repellent when outdoors.”

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.

Mosquito control is a shared responsibility between the District and the residents. Once again, the District wants to reach out to the community to urge residents to do their part to protect themselves from 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](http://www.westnile.ca.gov)

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](http://www.avmosquito.org), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/avmosquito>), and follow us on Twitter and Instagram @AVMosquito.

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

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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