

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MOSQUITO CONTROL CONSIDERS AERIAL SPRAYING **--Concern Grows Over Virus Activity in South Sacramento**

Elk Grove, Calif.— The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District announced today that aerial spraying may be necessary to control mosquitoes in South Sacramento. In recent weeks, virus activity has increased with the finding of positive dead birds and multiple infected mosquito samples. “We’re very concerned about the increased activity in this area and we are evaluating our response” said David Brown, District Manager. Though no formal decisions have been made, it may be necessary **as early as next week** to begin aerial treatments to reduce the mosquito population and risk of West Nile virus transmission. The District continuously monitors the spread of West Nile virus and new information comes in on a daily basis. With extremely hot temperatures this week, the virus is expected to amplify in bird and mosquito populations causing additional concerns. “We know we’ll see an increase in mosquito populations and we want to be proactive in ensuring they won’t be a threat to the public,” said Brown. “It is extremely important for residents to ensure they are not producing mosquitoes in their own yards, and protect themselves by wearing a repellent when mosquitoes are active.”

The District will continue to monitor the spread of West Nile virus through mosquito samples and dead bird reports. Once a decision has been made to proceed with aerial treatments, media will be notified **immediately**. The District asks for the cooperation of the media to alert the public and help keep them informed. Residents can subscribe to mailing lists to receive email notifications for mosquito treatments by zip code. To sign up, visit www.FIGHTtheBITE.net and go to Spray Notifications.

2008 West Nile virus activity update for Sacramento and Yolo counties
Level 2—**10 dead birds**, 0 sentinel chickens, **23 mosquito samples** and **0 humans** have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

Practice the District D’s of Mosquito Prevention:

DRAIN standing water that may produce mosquitoes.

DAWN and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outdoors.

DRESS appropriately be wearing long sleeves and pants when outside.

DEFEND yourself by using an effective insect repellent. Make sure to follow label directions!

DOOR and window screens should be in good working condition.

DISTRICT personnel are also available to address any mosquito problems. Call them at 1-800-429-1022 or visit www.FIGHTtheBITE.net

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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