

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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INCREASED WEST NILE VIRUS ACTIVITY IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY PROMPTS GROUND ADULT MOSQUITO CONTROL APPLICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015: Due to the elevated activity of WNV in Riverside County, the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District has scheduled ultra-low volume (ULV) ground applications, using truck mounted sprayers to reduce the risk of disease transmission to humans by adult mosquitoes.

Application routes are available at

http://www.northwestmvcd.org/Northwestmvcd/Mosquito_spraying.html.

Date for spraying: Saturday, September 19, 2015

Time for Spraying: 3:00 AM to 5:00 AM

Product to be sprayed: Aqua-Reslin (EPA Reg. 432-796)

Area to be sprayed: Canyon Crest area. See link above for map/streets to be treated

All products used are registered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the purpose of controlling mosquitoes and protecting public health. The products are applied according to label instructions by trained and certified technicians. Although the District's mosquito control products pose low risk, some people may prefer to avoid exposure. To minimize exposure, residents and pets should remain indoors and keep windows closed during and for 30 minutes following ground ULV application. Signs have been posted along the ULV route informing residents of the control efforts.

In addition, District staff are intensifying mosquito surveillance, searching out breeding sites, and conducting larval control where appropriate. We are also distributing WNV prevention and protection tips to area residents, health care facilities, schools, and community centers.

WNV is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most individuals infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Others will have mild symptoms, such as fever, headache, and body aches. However, young children, the elderly, or individuals with lowered immune systems are at greater risk of experiencing more severe symptoms when infected. Anyone with symptoms should contact their health care provider. For the latest statewide statistics for WNV activity, please visit <http://westnile.ca.gov>. Please contact the District at (951)340-9792 to report mosquito problems, request mosquitofish, report neglected pools or standing water where mosquitoes breed, and report dead birds. Visit us online at www.northwestmvcd.org to obtain more information and submit service requests.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites:

- Apply Insect Repellent. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Lemon eucalyptus oil should not be used on children under three years of age.
- Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. Dawn and dusk are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities during that time.
- Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wear long-sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors to help keep mosquitoes away from skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

- Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places for mosquitoes to breed by draining/discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools. Change water in birdbaths and pet bowls at least weekly.
- Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

*Protect Riverside County. Together we can **Fight the Bite!***

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