

**For Immediate Release:
November 7, 2011**

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MULTI-AGENCY INFORMATION RELEASE

Southern California Vector Control Agencies Conduct Joint Asian Tiger Mosquito Control & Education Campaign

WHO:

Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD)
San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (SGVMVCD)

In collaboration with:

California Department of Public Health, VBDS
Compton Creek Mosquito Abatement District
Los Angeles County West Vector Control District
City of Moorpark Mosquito and Vector Abatement
Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District
Orange County Vector Control District
Riverside County Department of Environmental Health
West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

WHAT:

Southern California public health agencies will collaborate and conduct extensive neighborhood outreach and control campaigns in the San Gabriel Valley to raise awareness, provide immediate, localized mosquito control, and continue to evaluate the extent of the infestation of the aggressive, day-time biting Asian tiger mosquito. Results from this survey will be used to develop future control strategies.

WHEN:

The door-to-door campaign will begin Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at approximately 2:00p.m. Residents are asked to cooperate and provide agency inspectors access to property.

WHERE:

Participating agencies will be surveying neighborhoods in portions of North Whittier, La Puente, West Covina, Covina, Baldwin Park, Duarte, Arcadia, Temple City, Rosemead, Montebello, and Pico Rivera.

--More--

Los Angeles County--After identifying Asian tiger mosquitoes (*Aedes albopictus*) in the cities of El Monte and South El Monte this summer, the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District and the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District are mobilizing 120 volunteers from ten Southern California agencies for another joint campaign to conduct neighborhood surveillance, control, and outreach to approximately 1,200 homes surrounding the current infestation area.

“The door-to-door operation will provide an opportunity for us to share our experiences, to date, with the other vector control agencies in our region,” said Mark Daniel, GLACVCD Director of Operations. “Establishing an outer perimeter will facilitate an effective campaign against this latest invader and refine our strategies for any future introduction.”

Asian tiger mosquitoes are approximately ¼ inch long and have distinctive black and white bands across their body and legs. These mosquitoes are considered “container breeders” and require very little water to lay eggs and breed. In order to stop the spread of this species in Los Angeles County, public health officials are calling upon all residents in nearby communities to do their part. Because many of the mosquito breeding sites are on patios and in backyards, residents are urged to participate by following these steps:

- **CALL AND REPORT if you see any small, black and white mosquitoes or if you are being bitten by mosquitoes during the day!**
- Search for and discard any containers, cans, buckets, or old tires around the home.
- Remove any water dishes from beneath potted plants and drill drain holes in all decorative flower pots.
- Dump and drain any standing water around the home and wipe the containers thoroughly with a towel and bleach to remove any eggs.
- Do not store water in uncovered buckets or rain barrels. Ensure rain barrels are completely sealed to prevent mosquitoes from entering.
- Empty bird baths and small fountains completely or clean them thoroughly every 3 days.
- Clean out rain gutters and lawn drains to ensure water does not collect.
- Water plants at the bottom near the soil, not the top.
- These mosquitoes prefer wet, shady and humid areas with lots of plants, shrubs, and tree foliage. Regularly check gardens for potential breeding sites.
- Talk to your neighbors about preventing mosquitoes from breeding.

For more information about the Asian tiger mosquito, to submit a service request, or to report possible sightings, please contact the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562)944-9656 (www.glacvcd.org) or the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District at (626)814-9466 (www.SGVmosquito.org). For media opportunities, please contact GLACVCD PIO Crystal Brown at cbrown@glacvcd.org or call 562-325-3271.

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