



**San Gabriel Valley Mosquito &
Vector Control District**

1145 N. Azusa Canyon Road
West Covina, CA 91790
(626) 814-9466
www.sgvmosquito.org

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Kelly Middleton
Public Information Officer
B: (626) 814-9466

West Covina, CA (September 6, 2007) – The City of San Gabriel joins the ranks of other Valley cities having West Nile virus (WNV) infected mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes collected August 29th from a residential backyard in the southern part of the City were weakly positive using in-house testing methods and were sent to the California Department of Public Health for confirmation. We received confirmation on that sample today, marking the first identification of WNV activity from the city of San Gabriel this year.

In the past month, West Nile virus activity has increased significantly in the San Gabriel Valley. Kenn Fujioka, Assistant Manager for the District cautions, “The identification of additional mosquitoes serves as a note of caution for residents throughout the Valley. Mosquitoes are actively transmitting WNV and will continue to do so for several more months.” The District reported two other WNV positive mosquito samples from the cities of Covina and West Covina earlier this week.

“Ongoing preventative measures are important and residents are reminded to do their parts by helping to find and remove standing water on their property” noted Kelly Middleton, Public Information Officer for the District. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water and can mature from egg to biting adult in as few as 5-7 days during the hot summer months.

Those participating in outdoor activities between sunset and sunrise or when mosquitoes are active should apply repellents containing DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon Eucalyptus for best results. Additional information on repellent use can be found at http://www.westnile.ca.gov/wnv_faqs_basics.php.

Dirty pools, spas, ponds & fountains should be cleaned and treated to prevent mosquito reproduction. Residents can request assistance, report standing water or 'green' swimming pools, or get FREE mosquito-eating fish for ponds and water gardens by calling 626-814-9466 or visiting www.sgvmosquito.org.

Report dead birds and tree squirrels to the California West Nile Virus Hotline at 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473) or online at www.westnile.ca.gov.

Remember the **3 Ds** to stay safe:

1. **DRAIN:** Monitor your property weekly and dump out standing water. Properly maintain pools and spas. Avoid over-watering and repair leaky faucets/sprinklers.
2. **DUSK/DAWN:** Avoid outside activity at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
3. **DEET:** If outdoors during peak hours, use a repellents containing the ingredient DEET, Picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Be sure to follow label directions for maximum effectiveness.

West Nile virus is a community issue that requires the community's participation to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

The San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District is a public health agency dedicated to the control of mosquito and other vector-borne diseases. The District can be reached at 626-814-9466 or on the web at www.sgvmosquito.org.

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