



Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District
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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
August 15, 2008

FOGGING FOR MOSQUITOES TO BE CONDUCTED BY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

INDIO, CA, AUGUST 2008: West Nile virus (WNV) has been detected in a mosquito sample near the Cook Street sewer treatment plant in Palm Desert. At this time, there have not been any WNV positive sentinel chickens or humans cases within the area.

The Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District (District) begins ground fogging Monday, August 18, between 8:30 pm and 9:30 pm, and continues for 10 consecutive days, weather permitting, due to the immediate risk of disease transmission to humans. The area affected includes properties surrounding the Cook Street sewer treatment plant. Additionally, the District will barrier treat all Valley sewer treatment plants every two-weeks for a four-week period beginning Monday, August 18.

The area to be treated is off Cook Street, adjacent to the sanitation plant and is bordered by Fred Waring Drive on the south and Merle Drive on the north. Communities in the treatment area include Palm Lake, Waring Place, and Desert Rose. In addition, an area west of Cook and south of Merle Drive including Azurite Circle, Leslie Avenue, Gary Avenue, and portions of Christian Street,

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Clifford Street, and Sheryl Avenue will also be treated. The business park area along Melanie Place will also be treated. Maps indicating the exact streets to be treated are available on the District's website at www.cvmvcd.org.

Treatment will be made with truck-mounted ultra-low-volume equipment using Pyrenone 25-5 applied at a rate of 0.0025 pounds per acre. There is no action required by residents as all products used are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency for the purpose of controlling mosquitoes and protecting public health in urban areas. These products are applied according to label directions by our trained and certified technicians, which minimize exposure and risk to people and the environment. Residents may visit the District's Web site at www.cvmvcd.org for more information, or call the District at either at 342-8287 or the toll-free (888) 343-9399.

West Nile Virus is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Most individuals who are infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Others will have only mild symptoms, such as fever, headache and body aches. However, WNV can be severe in young children, the elderly, or individuals with lowered immune systems.

Valley residents are urged to routinely check their yards, to dump mosquito water sources, and to properly maintain their water features. Abandoned or neglected swimming pools are especially worrisome as they can produce hundreds of thousands of mosquitoes and affect residents up to a five-mile radius.

Individuals can reduce their risk of mosquito-borne diseases by taking these precautions:

- Avoid outdoor activity at dusk and dawn.
- When outdoors, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and other protective clothing.
- Apply insect repellent according to label instructions.
- Make sure that doors and windows have tight fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property that can support mosquito breeding.

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- Contact your local mosquito and vector control agency if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live or work.

Contact the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District at 760-342-8287 or 1-888-343-9399 to report mosquito problems, request mosquito fish, or to report neglected pools or standing water. Service requests can also be submitted online at www.cvmvcd.org . For more information on flies, District services and programs, or to book an informational presentation or tour for your group, please visit our website at www.cvmvcd.org

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