



# **Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District**

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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### **7 MORE WNV POSITIVE MOSQUITO SAMPLES IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY**

**INDIO, CA, AUGUST 5, 2010:** The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) received confirmation from UC Davis of 7 more West Nile virus (WNV) positive mosquito samples, bringing the total in the Coachella Valley to 48. The mosquito samples were taken from traps located south of Mecca, the North and West Shore areas. No human cases are currently reported in the Valley. Up to date, the District has had 15 sentinel chickens test positive for WN virus. Due to the increased WNV activity the District will be intensifying surveillance and control of mosquito larvae. The control of adult mosquitoes will be conducted when needed. Currently, the District remains in Emergency Planning mode. Please visit the District website for additional information and the CVMVCD Mosquito-Borne Virus Surveillance and Emergency Response Plan.

To date, in California, there have been 8 human cases (2 Fresno County, 1 Kern County, 1 Sacramento, and 4 Stanislaus), 433 positive mosquito samples (51 Fresno County, 9 Imperial County, 92 Kern County, 7 Kings County, 6 Los Angeles County, 6 Madera County, 4 Merced County, 7 Orange County, 5 Placer

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County, 48 Riverside County, 123 Sacramento County, 6 San Bernardino County, 1 San Diego County, 6 San Joaquin County, 10 Santa Clara County, 11 Stanislaus County, 12 Sutter County, 35 Tulare County, and 1 Yuba County, ), 176 dead birds (2 Butte County, 1 Colusa County, 10 Fresno County, 9 Kern County, 9 Los Angeles County, 7 Madera County, 10 Merced County, 3 Orange County, 1 Placer County, 55 Sacramento County, 1 San Bernardino, 1 San Diego, 17 San Joaquin, 22 Santa Clara County, 4 Santa Cruz County, 1 Shasta County, 16 Stanislaus County, 4 Tulare County, and 3 Yolo County), and 24 Sentinel Chickens (8 Imperial County, 1 Kern County, and 15 Riverside County) that have tested positive for the WNV.

WNV 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. Young children, the elderly, or individuals with lowered immune systems may experience mild to severe symptoms.

The District continues its extensive surveillance, prevention, and treatment programs throughout the Coachella Valley and urges residents to help reduce mosquito breeding sources by inspecting their backyards and neighborhoods for standing water sources at least once a week.

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.
- 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, to report neglected pools or standing water. Service requests can also be submitted online at [www.cvmvcd.org](http://www.cvmvcd.org) .

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