



**Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District**  
43-420 Trader Place • Indio, CA 92201 • (760) 342-8287 • Fax (760) 342-8110  
E-mail: [CVmosquito@cvmvcd.org](mailto:CVmosquito@cvmvcd.org) • Website: [www.cvmvcd.org](http://www.cvmvcd.org)

---

**Board of Trustees**

President  
BRUCE UNDERWOOD, Dr. P.H.  
Indian Wells

Vice President  
SHARON LOCK  
Palm Springs

Secretary/Treasurer  
GARY HOWELL  
Cathedral City

STEVEN HERNANDEZ  
Coachella

ALBERT KECK  
County at Large

ELLEN TROVER  
County at Large

KARL BAKER, JR.  
Desert Hot Springs

GENE GILBERT  
Indio

ROBERT COX  
La Quinta

DOUGLAS WALKER  
Palm Desert

DANA HOBART  
Rancho Mirage

BRANKA B. LOTHROP, PhD.  
General Manager

**PRESS RELEASE**

CONTACT:  
Branka B. Lothrop, PhD.  
General Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
August 27, 2009

Maria C. Kylis  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
(760) 342-8287 or (888) 343-9399  
Email: [mkylis@cvmvcd.org](mailto:mkylis@cvmvcd.org)

**VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES FIRST WEST NILE  
VIRUS POSITIVE MOSQUITO SAMPLE OF THE YEAR**

**INDIO, CA, AUGUST 27, 2009:** The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District received confirmation from UC Davis of the first West Nile virus (WNV) positive mosquito sample of the year in the Coachella Valley. The sample was taken from a mosquito trap located south of Mecca near Lincoln and Avenue 70. The District will be intensifying their surveillance and larviciding in that area to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes. To date, in Riverside County, there have been 11 mosquito samples, 1 sentinel chicken and 1 dead American Crow that have tested positive for the WNV. No human cases of WNV have been reported in Riverside County this year.

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. Others will have only mild symptoms, such as fever, headache and body aches. However, WNV can be

~MORE~

severe in young children, the elderly, or individuals with lowered immune systems.

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).

**~END~**