

DELTA VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dinuba Ponding Basins are currently negative for West Nile Virus *Mosquitoes samples from Dinuba have not tested positive for West Nile Virus*

DINUBA, CA – Delta Vector Control District (DVCD) is conducting routine surveillance for mosquito-borne disease and nuisance mosquitoes throughout the district, including regions where ponding basins are located. To date, no mosquito sample from 2019 has tested positive for West Nile Virus.

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito-borne disease that is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Once infected, mosquitoes can then transmit the disease to humans and other animals. WNV is **not** spread through water or skin contact. WNV transmission to people occurs most often in summer and early fall when mosquitoes are most active.

DVCD routinely monitors mosquito abundance and disease status through surveillance traps, source inspections, and laboratory testing for disease. Every week, over two-hundred and sixty traps are placed throughout the district. Mosquito samples are identified, counted, and tested for West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis Virus (SLEV), and Western Equine Encephalitis Virus (WEEV). Known sources of standing water, where mosquitoes might breed, including ponding basins, are inspected regularly by DVCD staff and treated. This surveillance information is available to the public and is used to prioritize DVCD mosquito control efforts.

Current areas with elevated mosquito populations and areas where mosquito samples have tested positive for disease are mapped as trap results are processed. This map is available to the public at www.deltavcd.com by clicking on the tab “Current Mosquito Collections”. Areas with disease positive mosquito samples can be found by opening the map legend and selecting “Positive mosquito samples”. Maps and data from prior years do not represent current or ongoing disease risk.

Residents are always encouraged to take measures to reduce mosquito populations and to protect themselves from mosquito bites. These measures include:

- Eliminate standing water and items that could hold water around the home every week.
- Report mosquito presence (anonymously, if you like) by calling Delta Vector Control District, toll-free at 1-877-732-8606 or online at www.deltavcd.com.
- Apply an EPA-registered insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, IR3535 or oil of lemon eucalyptus according to label instructions when going outdoors.

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- Wear loose, long-sleeved shirts and pants if outside around dusk and dawn.
- Make sure that doors and windows have properly fitting screens that are in good condition.
- Get free mosquitofish for ponds, water troughs, and water features by calling DVCD at 1-877-732-8606 or requesting them online at www.deltavcd.com.

Residents can receive updates on current mosquito-borne disease results by following DVCD on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@DeltaVCD) or by calling the office at 559-732-8606.

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