

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District

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West Nile Update: San Fernando Valley Residents Urged to Take Precautions

Los Angeles County, Calif. — West Nile virus (WNV) activity continues to be detected in San Fernando Valley mosquitoes. Residents are urged to use EPA registered repellents when spending time outdoors in the early morning and evening hours to prevent mosquito bites and WNV illness.

City/Community	Date First Detected	# WNV Positive Mosquito Samples to Date
Burbank	8/16/18	1
Encino	7/31/18	3
La Mirada	8/8/18	1
Montebello	8/8/18	1
Northridge	8/14/18	2
Panorama City	7/3/18	3
Porter Ranch	7/18/18	2
Sherman Oaks	7/18/18	2
Sun Valley	8/8/18	2
Van Nuys	7/31/18	4

Not all repellents are effective against mosquitoes. The public is encouraged to read about, and select those products that are both effective, and appropriate for their situation.

For a comprehensive look at repellents, please visit:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Dont-Give-Bugs-a-Biting-Chance.aspx>

The District works year-round to actively search for and manage water-holding areas such as gutters, ditches, storm drain channels, basins, and non-functional pools and ponds, but there are many more mosquito breeding sites on private property that require the public's attention.

The District cannot do this alone. Water-holding containers on private property must be emptied to prevent mosquito reproduction.

About West Nile virus:

According to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, West Nile virus is a leading cause of severe infections of the nervous system among adults older than 50 years of age in Los Angeles County. **This year, 10 WNV cases have been reported by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, 70% of these patients required hospitalization.**

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WNV is transmitted to people and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. There is no cure for WNV. One in five persons infected with the virus will exhibit symptoms. Symptoms can include fever, headache, body aches, weakness, and nausea. These symptoms can last for several days to months. One in 150 people infected with the virus will require hospitalization. Severe symptoms include high fever, muscle weakness, neck stiffness, coma, paralysis, and possibly death.

For more information, residents can contact the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at 562-944-9656 or online at www.glacvcd.org.

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