

FIGHT THE BITE!



Protect Yourself and Your Family From West Nile Virus

What are the facts?

We are prepared to respond to West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases and we'll be more successful in our efforts with the public's help. Fortunately, the disease risk for residents is small. Even in a virus outbreak, fewer than 1 in 100 mosquitoes are carriers of the virus and fewer than 1 in 150 people who become infected with the virus will develop a serious illness. Our District follows an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program that is an ecosystem based strategy. Pesticides are used only after monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines, and treatments are made with the goal of eradicating only mosquitoes. Pesticides are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risk to human health, beneficial and non-target organisms, and the environment.

Will the District conduct spraying for mosquitoes?

The District had no horse or bird cases of WNV last year. We did have one human case in the District late last season. Additionally, there were 11 sentinel chickens and 26 mosquito collections that tested positive for WNV. The District will remain diligent in the fight against WNV which appears to have established itself in California.

Town spraying will start Thursday, July 1st from truck-mounted, ultra low volume foggers starting at dusk. Spraying should last no longer than 2 ½ hours. The District may also perform town spraying on Monday evenings if mosquito counts or virus activity become elevated. Agricultural spraying will start in late June or early July predicated on mosquito abundance and virus activity. An announcement will appear in the Appeal Democrat prior to the start of agricultural spraying.

What pesticides will we use?

In the case of adult mosquito control we will use botanical insecticides (plant derived compounds) that include pyrethrins or synthetic pyrethroids, with piperonyl butoxide. We will use Trumpet, an organophosphate, by aircraft on agricultural areas and duck clubs starting in late July and continuing through October. All the products we use are registered by the Environmental Protection Agency and applied according to label directions by our trained and certified technicians. Bti, a bacterium, will be used for larval control in rice fields.

Should I take steps to reduce exposure to pesticides during mosquito control spraying?

Generally, there is no need to relocate during mosquito control spraying. Although mosquito control pesticides pose low risks, some people may prefer to avoid or further minimize exposure. Some common sense steps to help reduce possible exposure to pesticides include:

- ❖ Remain indoors during applications in the immediate area.
- ❖ People who suffer from chemical sensitivities or feel spraying may aggravate a pre-existing health condition may consult their physician or local health department and take special measures to avoid exposure.
- ❖ Close windows and turn off window-mounted air conditioners and evaporative coolers when spraying is taking place in the immediate area. Since the effects of ground and aerial spraying dissipate in about an hour it is not necessary to wash off outdoor furniture or playground equipment before use. Please contact our office if you have questions or concerns about our spray program.

What can you do to reduce your risk of contracting West Nile virus?

- ❖ Eliminate standing water on your property where mosquitoes may breed. They can breed in anything that holds standing water for more than 4 or 5 days, such as dirty swimming pools, backyard ornamental ponds, discarded tires, clogged rain gutters, pool and boat covers, bird baths, cans, buckets and many other containers.
- ❖ Report foreclosed homes with dirty swimming pools to the District.
- ❖ Report dead birds. Call the WNV hotline toll free at 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473).
- ❖ Repair window and door screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering homes and businesses.
- ❖ Wear long sleeves and pants if you have to be outdoors when mosquitoes are present. Peak biting activity is typically at dusk and dawn.
- ❖ Use a repellent containing the ingredient DEET.
- ❖ Visit our District office to get FREE mosquitofish for ornamental ponds, horse troughs and other sources that hold water for extended periods of time. The District office is located at 701 Bogue Road, Yuba City, CA. Our hours of operation are 7-3:30 M-F. Please bring a container, such as a small ice chest, to take home your mosquitofish.
- ❖ Report mosquito sources and problems in your neighborhood.

CLIP N SAVE

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SPRAY SCHEDULE

Sutter-Yuba
Mosquito & Vector
Control District

ON TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT DUSK, agricultural ground fogging for rural areas in the District. Does not include Yuba Co. foothills.

ON TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS AT DUSK, aerial spraying for agricultural areas north of Marysville and west of Yuba City.

ON MONDAYS & THURSDAYS AT DUSK, town fogging for Wheatland, Olivehurst, Linda, East Marysville, Meridian, Live Oak, Sutter, Tierra Buena, Robbins and Plumas Lake.

Stay alert for further information regarding additional spraying. • www.sutter-yubamvcd.org

530-674-5456