

The Law

Selected Portions of the Health & Safety Code

CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 2040-2061

2040. Within the district's boundaries or in territory that is located outside the district from which vectors and vectorborne diseases may enter the district, a district may do all of the following:

(a) Conduct surveillance programs and other appropriate studies of vectors and vectorborne diseases.

(b) Take any and all necessary or proper actions to prevent the occurrence of vectors and vectorborne diseases.

(c) Take any and all necessary or proper actions to abate or control vectors and vectorborne diseases.

2047. Any person who restrains, hinders, obstructs, or threatens any officer or employee of a district in the performance of that person's duties, or any person who interferes with any work done by, or under the direction of, the district is guilty of a misdemeanor.

2053. (b) Subject to the limitations of the United States Constitution and the California Constitution, employees of a district may enter any property, either within the district or property that is located outside the district from which vectors may enter the district, without hindrance or notice for any of the following purposes:

(1) Inspect the property to determine the presence of vectors or public nuisances.

(4) Control vectors and treat property with appropriate physical, chemical, or biological control measures.

2060. (a) A district may abate a public nuisance pursuant to this article.

(b) The person or agency claiming ownership, title, or right to property or who controls the diversion, delivery, conveyance, or flow of water shall be responsible for the abatement of a public nuisance that is caused by, or as a result of, that property or the diversion, delivery, conveyance, or control of that water.

2061. (a) Whenever a public nuisance exists on any property within a district or on any property that is located outside the district from which vectors may enter the district, the board of trustees may notify the owner of the property of the existence of the public nuisance.

(b) The notice required by subdivision (a) shall do all of the following:

(1) State that a public nuisance exists on the property, describe the public nuisance, and describe the location of the public nuisance on the property.

(2) Direct the owner of the property to abate the nuisance within a specified time.

(3) Direct the owner of the property to take any necessary action within a specified time to prevent the recurrence of the public nuisance.

(4) Inform the owner of the property that the failure to comply with the requirements of the notice within the specified times may result in the district taking the necessary actions, and that the owner shall be liable for paying the costs of the district's actions.

(5) Inform the owner of the property that the failure to comply with the requirements of the notice within the specified times may result in the imposition of civil penalties of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) per day for each day that the public nuisance continues after the specified times.

Mosquitoes are your Responsibility



Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District

Mosquitoes Adapt to New Environments

There was a time when California's mosquitoes came almost entirely from natural sources—flood waters, lowland swamps, salt marshes, springs and the like. As a result massive numbers of mosquitoes were produced but were limited in distribution and their seasonal occurrence was well defined.

Many of these natural sources have been eliminated by the hundreds of reclamation projects which were undertaken throughout the state for the purposes of providing constant water supplies, reclaiming land or controlling flooding.

However, new man-made sources have created thousand of mosquito producing acres. Our expanding cities, vast acreage of irrigated farmland and hundreds of new industries all produce great volumes of waste water. These developments are all signs of progress and are important parts of the growth of our area. But they have set the stage for a serious mosquito problem.

Organized Mosquito Control Established

To keep pace with these changes, the California State Legislature has passed laws, in the interest of public health, which fix the responsibility for artificially-produced mosquito sources upon the owner of the land on which they are found. Provisions were also made to establish Mosquito Abatement Districts which have the authority to enforce these laws.

The Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District's program is one of education and control, with the application of the best mosquito control methods known to science. Legal abatement procedures are a last resort, but must be taken when cooperation is not forthcoming from the individual upon whose land the mosquitoes are produced.

YOU MUST HELP

The Sutter-Yuba Mosquito and Vector Control District is doing the best job possible with the funds available. However the job is one which cannot be accomplished by a small group of people, no matter how dedicated. If we are to stay ahead of this annoying and disease-carrying insect then you must help.

IN AGRICULTURE:

By careful management of irrigation water. Apply only enough water to satisfy your crop. Water left standing on the surface of your field is an economic loss and may produce mosquitoes.

By providing drainage facilities to carry any excess water off the land and by keeping drains clean and free-flowing.

By putting mosquitofish in stock watering ponds and troughs and other permanent water.

By remembering that an irrigated field which holds water long enough to raise mosquitoes can also raise watergrass, tules and cattails but little else.

IN INDUSTRY:

By providing re-circulation systems or adequate drainage for water from cooling systems, water baths and wet processes.

By installing, using and maintaining adequate treatment plants and percolation ponds for waste water.

By remembering that people that must battle mosquitoes at work, at play and at rest are neither contented customers nor productive workers.

YOU MUST HELP

AROUND THE HOME:

By cleaning up containers, tires, clogged roof gutters, uncovered boats, dirty pools and spas and other debris which may hold water and produce mosquitoes.

By repairing leaky outdoor faucets and pipes and completely sealing septic-tanks.

By stocking ornamental ponds and animal watering troughs with mosquitofish.

By remembering that mosquitoes raised in your own backyard will invite themselves to dinner—on you and your neighbors.

By remembering that mosquitoes raised on your property may transmit diseases such as West Nile Virus, Western Equine Encephalitis and St. Louis Encephalitis to you, your neighbors and valuable livestock.

Sutter-Yuba Mosquito & Vector Control District

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