



Fresno County Mosquito Control Districts
Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District
Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control District
Fresno Westside Mosquito Abatement District
www.fresnocountymosquito.org



Department of Public Health
www.fcdph.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Media Advisory
Public Health Communication
(559) 974-2302 or (559) 259-1798
Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District
(559) 896-1085 or (800) 821-1577

Positive West Nile Virus Human Cases Reported in Fresno County

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has reported that nine Fresno County residents have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) infections so far this year, including three asymptomatic WNV-positive blood donors.

This season, Fresno County mosquito control districts have also collected 216 samples of mosquitoes that have tested positive for WNV.

“With confirmation of these cases and an increase in the number of mosquito collections testing positive for WNV, it is important that everyone take precautions to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites,” says Katherine Ramirez, Science Education Coordinator with the Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District.

“These cases are a reminder that infections from mosquitoes continue to be a hazard,” says Dr. Rais Vohra, Fresno County Interim Health Officer. “Please maintain vigilance and use the strategies that our partners are advocating to prevent mosquito bites and get medical attention if you are ill with symptoms of West Nile virus infection.”

Residents are encouraged to contact their local mosquito control district regarding standing water or mosquito problems, as well as to report any neglected swimming pools. Neglected pools are a major source of mosquito production in urban and suburban areas.

Protect against mosquito bites and WNV by practicing the “Three Ds”:

1. **DETER** – Apply insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535 according to label instructions. Repellents keep the mosquitoes from biting you. Insect repellents should not be used on children under two months of age.
2. **DAWN AND DUSK** – Mosquitoes usually bite in the early morning and evening, so it is important to wear proper clothing and repellent if outside during these times. Make sure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep mosquitoes out. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
3. **DRAIN** – Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, by emptying flowerpots, buckets, and other water-holding containers. If you know of a swimming pool that is not being properly maintained, please contact your local mosquito control district.

Fresno County residents can find their local mosquito control district at: www.fresnocountymosquito.org.

Information on WNV activity in California can be found on the CDPH website: www.westnile.ca.gov.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please call Katherine Ramirez at (559) 896-1085 or (800) 821-1577.

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Promotion, preservation and protection of the community's health

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