



Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District

43-420 Trader Place, Indio, CA 92201

(760) 342-8287 www.cvmosquito.org

July 22, 2020 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tammy Gordon, Public Information Officer
(760) 296-2905 tgordon@cvmvcd.org

Coachella Mosquito Trap Tests Positive for Mosquito-Borne Disease

This is the first time in 2020 Coachella has seen mosquito virus activity. Traps in La Quinta continue to test positive expanding neighborhood mosquito control treatments in those areas.

A trap near Avenue 52 and Tyler in Coachella has tested positive for St Louis encephalitis (SLEV) for the first time this year. The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District advises all valley residents and visitors to take precautions and protect themselves against mosquito bites.

"People want to spend time outside when its cooler here like early morning or later in the evening," says Tammy Gordon, Public Information Officer for the District. "But that is when mosquitoes are most active too so please remember to cover up and wear insect repellent. It only takes one bite to get sick."

SLEV is a potentially serious illness. People can get sick from the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes are infected when they feed on birds infected with the virus. Most infected people will have no symptoms, while others develop fever, headaches, and body aches; hospitalization is required in some cases, and in rare cases death occurs. Anyone with symptoms should contact their health care provider.

Maps of virus activity and application details at www.cvmosquito.org.

Prevent mosquito bites:

- Don't go outside around dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear insect repellent. EPA registered ingredients such as DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 (as directed on the product label).
- Cover up. Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants, socks and shoes when mosquitoes are most active.
- Check window and door screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.

Prevent mosquitoes around your home:

- Check lawn drains for water and debris. Clean drains regularly.
- Inspect yards for standing water sources. Drain water that collects under potted plants, bird baths, tires, and any other water holding containers.
- Clean and scrub pet dishes and water features weekly.
- Swimming pools, ornamental ponds, and fountains require working pumps and regular maintenance.

-END-