



Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District

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West Nile Virus found late in the season in La Quinta

Coachella Valley, CA: Mosquitoes collected in south La Quinta detected West Nile Virus (WNV). The mosquito samples were from a trap near Fritz Burns Park, Avenue 52 and Avenida Bermudas. This is the second time mosquitoes in La Quinta have been positive for the virus this year.

"The warm temperatures this fall mean more mosquitoes later in the season," said Tammy Gordon, Public Information Officer for the District. "You should invest in - and wear - insect repellent when enjoying the outdoors."

The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District is increasing mosquito control technicians in these areas and will carry out mosquito control treatments as needed to reduce the number of mosquitoes and interrupt further transmission of the virus.

WNV is a public health concern. When a female mosquito bites an infected bird, they can become a carrier and transmit the virus to people. 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. People with symptoms should contact their health care provider.

There has been one human case of West Nile Virus in the Coachella Valley this year. In California, 101 human cases have been confirmed: eleven fatalities.

Prevent mosquito bites:

- Don't go outside around dawn and dusk when these 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 and long pants 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, ponds, and fountains require working pumps and regular maintenance.

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