



Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District

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St. Louis encephalitis Virus Positive Mosquitoes Confirmed in Oasis

St. Louis encephalitis virus spread continues as summer officially begins this week.

Coachella Valley, CA: Mosquitoes from a routine collection site in Oasis tested positive for [St. Louis Encephalitis Virus](#) (SLEV) near Johnson Street and 82nd Avenue. This is the third sample from the east valley to test positive for virus in 2023.

No human cases of mosquito-borne illness have been reported by the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District or the [state](#) this year.

“Mosquitoes love our warm weather,” said Tammy Gordon, Public Information Manager for the District. “Stay bite-free by eliminating all stagnant water and using repellent.”

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.

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.

About St. Louis Encephalitis Virus. SLEV spread when a female mosquito bites an infected bird. The mosquito then can become a carrier and transmit the virus to people. Most infected people will have no [symptoms](#). Others will 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.

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