(STOCKTON, CA) – In recognition of National Mosquito Awareness Week, June 26 through July 2, 2011, San Joaquin County Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) will be distributing mosquitofish free to residents of all cities and surrounding rural areas within San Joaquin County.

“Ideal places to use mosquitofish to prevent mosquito development are ornamental ponds, animal water troughs, and neglected swimming pools” said Aaron Devencenzi, Public Information Officer with the District. A maximum of 15 fish will be provided to each resident as long as supplies last. Residents will be asked to provide name, address and location where fish will be placed. Mosquitofish will only be given to residents who live within San Joaquin County. Attached is a list of locations and times where the mosquitofish will be distributed.

Mosquitofish were first introduced in California in 1922 and have since spread throughout State. They are a live-bearing minnow closely related to the common guppy. Mosquitofish are temperature dependent for reproduction, but typically breed from mid-spring to fall in the San Joaquin Valley. They reproduce at intervals of about six weeks, with on average about 50 young in a single brood. Mosquitofish are the primary biological control agent for the San Joaquin County Mosquito & Vector Control District.

To request District service, call 209.982.4675, 1.800.300.4675 or visit the District website at www.sjmosquito.org

Media interviews and photo opportunities can be arranged by calling Aaron Devencenzi at 209.982.4675, ext.109.