



Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

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VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT REMINDS THAT SANITATION EQUALS FLY CONTROL

INDIO, CA, JUNE 26: The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District reminds residents and businesses that simple and easy sanitation practices can have a major impact on reducing fly populations and breeding locations in the Valley.

Flies live in close association with humans and animals and are found in suburban and rural locations throughout the Coachella Valley. Besides being a nuisance, flies can carry pathogens such as salmonella and E. coli, both on and in their bodies. Although most flies do not bite humans, their presence can transmit contaminants and possibly spread disease.

Flies are prolific breeders. A single female fly can lay up to 1,000 eggs during her lifespan of a single month. The time from egg to adult can be as little as 4 to 7 days. According to CVMVCD laboratory technicians, flies breed and feed in the same locations. In rural areas, agricultural waste, trash, and animal carcasses are principal breeding locations for flies. In residential neighborhoods, pet droppings,

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grass clippings, and uncovered trash containers both attract flies and provide excellent breeding sites.

Controlling flies means reducing their breeding sources. This can be accomplished by practicing simple, but important, sanitation techniques. Easy steps, such as picking up pet waste on a daily basis, is an effective means of reducing flies. Other easy steps include sealing all trash in plastic bags and making sure that the lids on trash cans, green waste bins, and other refuse receptacles fit securely.

Since flies breed rapidly, it is important that all residents and businesses maintain good sanitation practices throughout the year. The CVMVCD provides information on its web site on the types of flies found in our Valley, their breeding habits, and favored habitats. Following these simple and easy steps mean less flies and a healthier environment for enjoying your favorite outdoor activities.

Contact the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District at 760-342-8287 or 1-888-343-9399 to report mosquito problems, request mosquito fish, or to report standing water. Service requests can also be submitted online at www.cvmvcd.org . For more information on flies, District services and programs, or to book an informational presentation or tour for your group, please visit our website at www.cvmvcd.org

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