

West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Press Release:

March 26, 2010

First West Nile Virus Positive Crow in the West Valley in 2010

March 26, 2010 – A crow found near 2900 block of Hazeltine in Ontario south of Freeway 60 tested positive for West Nile virus. This is the first indication of resurgence of West Nile virus in the County of San Bernardino in 2010.

We strongly urge the public to take necessary precautions to prevent mosquito bites. Please call the District to report green pools, standing water, or mosquito problems. The District is here to help you with mosquito problems, and will take anonymous calls regarding green pools or mosquito breeding sources. It takes everyone's participation and help to fight mosquito-transmitted diseases.

Symptoms of West Nile Virus Infection:

People infected with WNV can have no symptoms, West Nile Fever, or West Nile Neuroinvasive disease. Symptoms usually occur 2-15 days after infection.

Symptoms of West Nile Fever can include:

- Headaches (often severe migraines)
- High fever
- Tiredness and body aches
- Occasionally a skin rash and swollen lymph glands

Even healthy people may suffer sickness for several days to several weeks, and be unable to function normally.

Symptoms of West Nile Neuroinvasive disease can include:

- Severe Headache
- High Fever
- Stiff neck
- Stupor

- Disorientation
- Tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness
- Paralysis
- Coma

This form of the disease can lead to long-lasting if not permanent damage to the body and brain.

Remember to use these steps to protect yourself:

- **Dump standing water** – tires, buckets, birdbaths, flowerpots, and even soda cans become “mosquito nurseries”.
- **Defend your house** – make sure screens on windows and doors are tight fitting and in good repair.
- **Defend yourself** – when outdoors at dusk and dawn, use a mosquito repellent. The active ingredients DEET, Picaridin, IR 3535, and oil of lemon eucalyptus are the longest lasting and most effective.

For more information visit: <http://www.wvmosquito.org> and <http://www.westnile.ca.gov>.

Residents can now follow us on Twitter and Facebook!

To follow us on Twitter visit: <http://www.twitter.com/WestValleyMVCD>

To find us on Facebook just search: West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control

Residents can also report dead birds and squirrels to the CA Department of Public Health’s toll-free hotline, 877-WNV BIRD (968-2473) or visit on-line at: www.westnile.ca.gov.

For more information or an interview, please contact Dr. Min-Lee Cheng at 909-635-0307.

