



# SHASTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2011

### ***First Indication of West Nile Virus Activity in Shasta County***

The first mosquito sample in Shasta County to test positive this year for the West Nile virus has been reported in the rural area east of the City of Anderson.

“Although typically the mosquito season is starting to wind down in September the warmer temperatures and subsequent high mosquito numbers continue to be a concern. It is important that people do everything they can to prevent their exposure to mosquitoes,” stated Peter Bonkrude, District Manager of the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District.

Due to this latest development, the District has increased surveillance of larval and adult mosquitoes in the area and treatments for both adult and larval mosquitoes are already underway in the affected area.

The District urges residents to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites; reducing activity during the peak mosquito feeding times at dawn and dusk, wearing effective insect repellent, and staying behind screened windows and doors whenever possible. Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control advise the public to implement the 3 Ds of protection:

- **D**rain any standing water that may produce mosquitoes.
- **D**efend yourself and your home by using an effective insect repellent and dressing protectively when outside and making sure screens on doors and windows are in good condition.
- **C**ontact the **D**istrict for any additional help controlling mosquitoes around your home

For more information, contact the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District at (530) 365-3768 or

[www.shastamosquito.org](http://www.shastamosquito.org)

2011 Shasta County West Nile virus activity update: 0 dead birds, 0 sentinel chickens, 1 mosquito sample, and 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

*Our Mission: “To protect the public’s health from vector-borne disease and nuisance, through a comprehensive mosquito and vector control program focused on innovation, experience and efficiency”.*