



SHASTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 16th, 2013

First Indication of West Nile Virus Activity in Shasta County

The first indication of West Nile virus (WNV) has been reported in Shasta County in both a positive mosquito sample collected in Anderson, CA and a positive Western Scrub Jay reported in Redding, CA. "With these continued warm temperatures, the adult mosquito numbers are only going to increase. It is important that everyone take the necessary precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites; it only takes one," stated Peter Bonkrude, District Manager of the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District. In addition the District is asking that residents eliminate any potential mosquito sources on their property to help in the reduction of adult mosquitoes.

West Nile virus continues to exhibit levels not only statewide, but nationally, that are much higher than experienced in the last 5 years. Due to this increase in WNV transmission, the District has augmented surveillance and treatment of larval and adult mosquitoes in the affected areas.

SMVCD staff 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. The Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District advises 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 mosquito around your home

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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".

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

2013 Shasta County West Nile virus activity update: **1** dead bird, **0** sentinel chickens, **1** mosquito sample, and **0** humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date (7/15/2013). Statewide virus activity update: **155** dead birds, **12** sentinel chickens, **396** mosquito samples, and **1** human have tested positive for West Nile virus to date (7/12/2013).

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