



# SHASTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

19200 Latona Road, Anderson, CA 96007  
Telephone: (530) 365-3768 Fax: (530) 365-0305  
Web: [shastamosquito.org](http://shastamosquito.org)

Contact: Peter Bonkrude, District Manager

Ph# 530-365-3768

E-mail: [contact@shastamosquito.org](mailto:contact@shastamosquito.org)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT  
*Ann Morningstar*  
SHASTA LAKE

VICE PRESIDENT  
*Philip Cramer*  
REDDING

SECRETARY  
*Benjamin Hanna*  
SHASTA COUNTY

*Dave Maron*  
SHASTA COUNTY

*Wade Bellingier*  
ANDERSON

ADMINISTRATION  
*Peter Bonkrude, MS*  
Manager

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 3rd, 2021

### ***High Temperatures bring the first sign of West Nile Virus in Shasta County***

The Shasta Mosquito and Vector District have confirmed the first sign of West Nile virus activity in Shasta County in the Anderson and Shingletown areas. The positive tests came from samples of adult mosquitoes that the district routinely collects as part of their surveillance program. "These positive samples are earlier when compared to previous years, but the higher temperatures can increase virus transmission rates in mosquitoes," stated Peter Bonkrude, District Manager. "The next few weeks are showing above average temperatures that are conducive to mosquito production and virus transmission, so people need to protect themselves from mosquito bites," explained Bonkrude.

In response to the recent findings, the District will continue to monitor West Nile virus activity through widespread mosquito trapping and testing, and will perform ground treatments in areas where positive mosquitoes have been found to quickly decrease populations and protect public health.

Another ongoing concern is the invasive mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*. Invasive mosquitoes were detected for the first time in the Redding area in 2020. This year, surveillance efforts have already detected invasive mosquitoes in the city of Redding. Invasive mosquitoes pose a significant health threat because they can transmit dangerous viruses including Zika, dengue fever and chikungunya.

Residents may also receive email or text notifications for upcoming adult mosquito treatments. To sign up, go to Adult Mosquito Control Notifications on the website.

-MORE-

---

*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".*

The Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District staff urges residents to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites by implementing the **4 Ds** of protection:

- **D**rain any standing water that may produce mosquitoes, this includes flowerpots, old tires, and buckets. Some species of mosquitoes can lay their eggs in very small sources of water, like a bottle cap.
- **D**efend yourself and your home by using an effective insect repellent and making sure screens on doors and windows are in good condition.
- **D**usk or **D**awn, avoid outside activities.
- **D**ress in long sleeves and pants when mosquitoes are active.

For more information about SMVCD's services, West Nile virus, or new emerging mosquito-borne diseases, contact the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District at (530) 365-3768 or visit [www.ShastaMosquito.org](http://www.ShastaMosquito.org).

**2021** Shasta County West Nile virus activity: **0** dead birds, **0** sentinel chickens, **1** mosquito samples, and **0** humans tested positive for West Nile virus. California West Nile virus activity: **26** dead birds, **0** sentinel chickens, **54** mosquito samples, and **0** humans tested positive for West Nile virus.

#

---

*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".*