

## **West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District**

1295 East Locust St. Ontario CA 91761  
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Website: [www.wvmosquito.org](http://www.wvmosquito.org)

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Press Release:  
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#### **West Nile virus Positive Mosquito Samples Pouring in, Risk of Human infection Skyrockets**

August 19, 2011 – Another 10 batches of mosquitoes sampled from the five cities within the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District's jurisdiction have tested positive for the presence of West Nile virus. One dead crow collected August seventh in Chino Hills also tested positive. District ecologists collected the samples on August fifteenth. The traps were located near Walnut and Ramona in Chino, Cypress and Riverside in Chino, J St. and San Antonio in Ontario, Kingsley and Ramona in Montclair, and Fern and Philadelphia in Ontario.

Dr. Min-Lee Cheng, District Manager said, "This is the highest activity we have seen for West Nile virus in recent years. We are seeing traps repeatedly catching positive mosquito samples week after week. The risk to our residents is real. Please remember to use repellents on yourself and family members and follow best management practices for mosquito breeding reduction."

Best Management Practices for mosquito reduction are: Wearing repellents, dumping out standing water, keeping pool, spa, and pond pumps in working order, keeping pools spas and ponds free of algae, and making sure doors and windows have tight-fitting, intact screens to keep mosquitoes out of the home.

Statewide there are twelve (12) human cases for 2011. Six cases were reported this week. The District is up to 26 mosquito samples and the one (1) dead crow positive for West Nile virus for this year, marking a rapid increase in West Nile virus activity.

More information can be viewed at [www.wvmosquito.org](http://www.wvmosquito.org) or [www.wvmvcd.org](http://www.wvmvcd.org). The District phone number is 909-635-0307. The office is located at 1295 East Locust St. Ontario CA, 91761 and is open Monday-Friday 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

### Symptoms of West Nile virus:

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 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](http://www.westnile.ca.gov).

**For more information or an interview, please contact Dr. Min-Lee Cheng (909-635-0307) or Brian Reisinger (909-376-4376).**