



## The Valley Buzz!

### Spring has Sprung!



As we welcome back warmer weather, those "uninvited guests"-mosquitoes - are preparing to spoil our outdoor fun! Get out there now and get rid of places mosquitoes might lay eggs! Give us a call if you have areas of standing water that you can't remove or are having mosquito troubles, we are here to help!

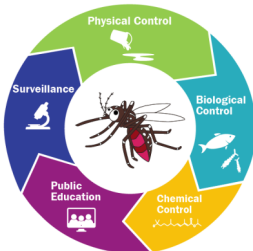
### Vector Control is Going "Swimmingly"!



Green swimming pools (so named because the water often has a green hue due to algae and bacteria in the water) continue to be one of the most notorious spots for mosquitoes to lay their eggs. Mosquitoes can go from egg to adult in as little as five days, and a pool can support breeding thousands of mosquitoes a week! Cleaning these up in the spring and maintaining them through the summer can make a huge difference for you and your neighbors.

### Sterile Insect Technology (SIT)

*SIT is one tool in a comprehensive methodology of vector control known as Integrated Pest Management (IPM)*



You may have recently heard or read about genetically modified mosquitoes and their potential release in San Bernardino. Though San Bernardino County was an area being considered, the project is being planned in partnership with the company Oxitec and Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District in Tulare County. Oxitec breeds male mosquitoes that mate with wild females and produce non-viable females, thus reducing biting mosquitoes.

This is just one type of SIT being explored for mosquito control, the other two are mosquitoes carrying Wolbachia (a naturally occurring bacteria), and X-ray irradiation (sterilizing males). Sterile insect technology is a novel biological control method that can provide vector control districts with another tool to reduce mosquito-borne disease without chemical pesticides.

Stay tuned to our social media as we'll be exploring SIT and Integrated Pest Management soon!

### Mosquito Awareness Week!



We want to thank our staff, Trustees, other districts, and city officials who participated in our "Ask Me About..." campaign during Mosquito Awareness Week April 17-23! Fitted with our awesome pins, we introduced key members of our community who help our residents in the fight against mosquitoes and disease. Our staff will continue wearing the pins so our residents know who to talk to when they have questions about mosquitoes!

