



7759 S. Airport Way
Stockton, CA 95206

Request for Service
209.982.4675 or
1.800.300.4675

Fight The Bite!

>Dump & Drain
standing water

>Dusk & Dawn are
when mosquitoes
that carry WNV are
most active.

>DEET is an
effective ingredient
to look for in insect
repellents

News Release

For Immediate Release
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NR10-01

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2010 SURVEILLANCE FOR MOSQUITO DISEASE BEGINS IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

IT'S TIME TO DUMP AND DRAIN ALL STANDING WATER!

(STOCKTON, CA) – Today marks the beginning of the 2010 mosquito-borne disease surveillance program in San Joaquin County with the introduction of sentinel chickens. Sentinel chickens are used by San Joaquin County Mosquito & Vector Control District (District) as an indicator for viruses carried by mosquitoes. The birds are located at the City of Lodi White Slough Waste Water Treatment Plant northwest of Stockton. “These birds are tested biweekly from April through November and checked for the presence of antibodies to mosquito-borne virus”, said Dr. Shaoming Huang, Entomologist with the District. “Sentinel chickens are only one component of a multifaceted approach to disease surveillance” said Dr. Huang.

Other components of the disease surveillance program include testing dead birds, dead squirrels, and adult mosquitoes. Through comprehensive testing, the District is able to concentrate mosquito control activities to be most efficient and effective. Equally important to mosquito control is cooperation from the public.

With warm weather just around the corner, the District asks all residents to eliminate standing water on their property. It is imperative to stop early mosquito development before adult mosquitoes become abundant. Mosquitoes develop in standing water. Containers, old tires, leaking faucets, buckets, and wheel-barrows, are among items property owners should inspect. Neglected swimming pools are also prime habitat for mosquito development. The District is available to help with neglected pools in the prevention of mosquito development.

Residents are encouraged to call the District with concerns or to request service.

To request District service, call 209.982.4675, 1.800.300.4675 or visit the District website at www.sjmosquito.org.

For additional information about mosquito control and WNV:

- California West Nile virus information and to report dead birds and squirrels: Call toll-free at 1-877-968-2473, or California Website: www.westnile.ca.gov/
- San Joaquin County Public Health website:
<http://www.sjcphs.org/emprep/WestNileVirus.htm>

Photo opportunity for media: The first sentinel chicken blood sampling will be at 10:00 a.m., April 12, 2010 at the White Slough Fish Rearing Facility just south of the City of Lodi White Slough Waste Water Treatment Plant. Please contact Aaron Devencenzi if you plan to attend.