May, 2019

The Valley Buzz

MANAGER’S MESSAGE:

Given the increased amount of precipitation this year combined with the mild temperatures, it is very important that residents remain mindful to dump out any standing water sources and to ensure that pools and spas are clean and functioning.

Happily, the number of suspect swimming pools and spas identified during our annual aerial surveillance was down approximately 40% over the number identified last year. We appreciate our residents’ diligence in preventing mosquito breeding.

While there have not been any West Nile virus positive mosquitoes trapped within the District, there have been West Nile virus positive mosquitoes collected in the Coachella Valley area of Riverside County. Always remember to wear your mosquito repellent when outdoors.

Dr. Michelle Brown

TECHNICIAN’S TIPS:

Mosquitoes, Water, and Green Pools, Oh my! -

Pools that remain unkempt will accumulate algae and bacteria, causing the water in it to turn green. One green pool can release thousands of mosquitoes into a neighborhood weekly. Technicians recommend to either clean and maintain the pool or drain the pool completely.

On April 8th, 2019, the District conducted aerial surveillance over all six of our cities to find green pools. Residents with suspected green swimming pools and spas will be receiving a letter from the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District outlining what to do to and how the District can help.

If you know of any green pools in your neighborhood, call us and help us
FROM OUR LABORATORY:

In2Care - An Exciting New way to Control Mosquitoes

The District is incorporating a new type of trapping and treatment with the In2Care mosquito traps. These traps are used primarily against invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes.

These traps bring *Aedes* mosquitoes in by mimicking a prime egg laying site. The traps contain a cotton gauze that the adults rest on. A larvicide and a fungal adulticide are transferred to the female as she rests against the gauze and lays eggs. When the female mosquito leaves the trap and lays eggs in other containers, she will transfer the larvicide to those containers killing any larvae present. Meanwhile, the fungus will kill the adult mosquito within a few days of contact.

These traps use the mosquitoes’ own behavior against them to reduce larvae, kill adults, and make unusable breeding sources. The District is excited to add these ingenious devices to their arsenal of public health tools.
OUTREACHING OUT TO YOU!

Leave Mosquitoes Quaking -

West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District is working with the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes baseball team this summer to spread the word about vector control.

The Quakes are helping knock our message out of the park by spreading our message in newsletters, distributing repellents, and hosting an interactive game where kids get to swat “mosquitoes” during game breaks!

Our message has been on over five newsletters, and over 9,000 fans have watched young vector technicians play the game

We are very excited to use this novel method to reach our residents and help make vector control a “home run”!
While we face many challenges in public health, we are confident that with your continued support, cooperation, and friendship, we can continue to protect our residents in this vast and ever-changing landscape.

Thank you for supporting us over the years!