



May, 2021

The Valley Buzz

MANAGER'S MESSAGE:

Spring 2021 is off to a mild start with no positive mosquito pools reported in the state as of May 21, 2021. Now is the perfect time to review your yard for any small water sources, including yard drains and flower pot overflow containers. Be sure that any standing water is removed on a weekly basis.

For more information on mosquitoes and other vectors, connect with us on Facebook or Twitter, or go to www.wvmvcd.org.

Dr. Michelle Brown

TECHNICIAN'S TIPS:

"Green Pools"

You may have heard this term before, but what is a "green pool" when it comes to vector control? Green pools are a general term used to describe swimming pools, hot tubs, and above ground pools that are unkempt, and likely to house mosquito larvae. Pools that are half-filled, don't contain proper chemicals like chlorine, and are generally unmaintained often have green or dark water in them due to algae and are a huge contributor of mosquitoes in neighborhoods. Green pools are one of the most notorious mosquito breeding sites. One pool can grow thousands of mosquitoes per week! Our cities have some of the densest concentrations of pools in San Bernardino County.

The District conducts aerial surveillance in the springtime to help identify and fix these backyard breeding grounds before summer (and mosquitoes) can kick into high gear. This year we identified over 700 potentially "green" pools. We sent our residents letters with accompanying pictures of the potential problem site and ask them to send us a picture of the pool once they've drained it or brought it back to operable conditions. We work together with our residents to make sure they have a safe environment!



An example of our aerial surveillance



A close up of a green pool teeming with mosquito larvae

FROM OUR LABORATORY:

Evolving Methods of Vector Control

With the invasive species *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* becoming more prevalent in the District, it is even more important to remove standing water from your property. These *Aedes* prefer to use small, man-made containers to lay their eggs in.

As we learn more about how this mosquito responds to our environment, our response evolves. To best combat these mosquitoes, the District has set up control traps early in the year in locations predicted to have high mosquito activity. When the District receives a request from our residents, we respond by conducting a physical inspection of the property, followed by surveillance trapping (if deemed necessary) to determine the number and type of mosquitoes. If mosquito populations are above thresholds, then further monitoring and the placement of an In2Care control trap (a trap that kills mosquito larvae and adults that visit the trap) will be implemented. This methodology ensures we are maximizing our resources and minimizing pesticide usage. If you are having trouble with mosquitoes, call us! We are here to help!



Aedes seek out small standing water sources like this planter saucer.



Technician placing an In2Care trap

OUTREACHING OUT TO YOU!

Dear Adie..

The District has started a new outreach campaign based on some of the frequently encountered questions we get from residents. "Dear Adie" will be answering these questions, providing helpful tips on mosquito prevention, and delivering insight into vector control and District operations. Keep an eye out for her on all our social media platforms, and email us if you have a question you'd like answered!

Pool Owner



Dear Adie, I live in one of the cities in the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District. I received a letter in the mail that says you need my help fighting mosquitoes by sending pictures of my pool. What is going on with these "green pool" letters?

I can see the confusion about what's going on! Our district recently flew over our cities in search of any large sources of water that could potentially breed mosquitoes. We do this to help protect public health by ensuring the mosquito population stays low and avoiding mosquito-borne disease from spreading. By simply texting or emailing back a picture of your clean/empty, you're helping protect public health by not having a mosquito breeding source in your yard!

Adie



For Information and Assistance Contact: 909-635-0307 wvmvcd.org | 1295 East Locust St Ontario, CA 91761 | @westvalleymvcd wvmosquito @WestValleyMVCD @wvmosquito



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!

Contact Us
Phone: 909-635-0307
Email: adminemail@wvmvcd.org
Website: wvmvcd.org

Connect with us



West Valley MVCD | 1295 East Locust St, Ontario, CA 91761 909-635-0307, www.wvmvcd.org

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