



San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District

1145 N. Azusa Canyon Road
West Covina, CA 91790
(626) 814-9466
www.sgvmosquito.org

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

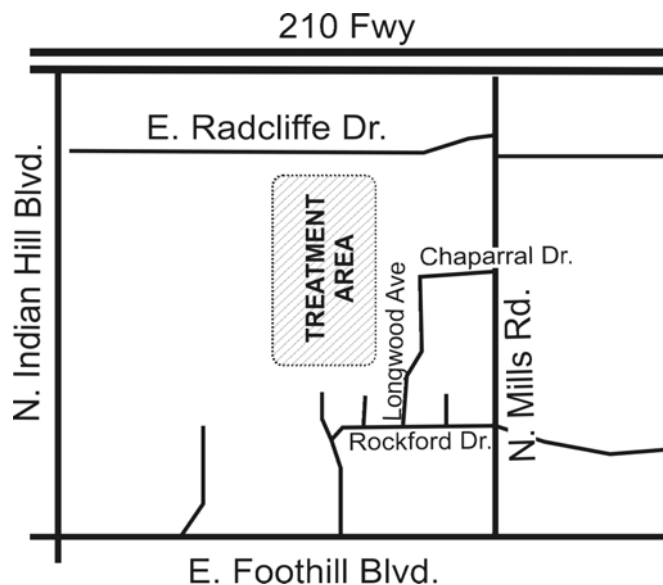
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Evidence of West Nile virus (WNV) activity in the eastern part of the City of Claremont has not diminished prompting officials at the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District to schedule ground fogging measures that target adult mosquitoes.

Fogging with a truck-mounted ultra low volume (ULV) sprayer will be conducted during the predawn hours Friday, July 22, 2004 by District employees on the grounds of the Pedley Filter Plant only in the City of Claremont as shown on the map:



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This treatment will be confined to the Filter Plant boundaries and should not drift into neighboring residential areas; however residences abutting the site were posted on Wednesday as a precautionary measure. Fogging activities may be postponed if weather conditions are not conducive to treatment requirements or repeated if adequate control is not achieved.

The following factors have prompted this precautionary measure to reduce the risk of additional spread of WNV:

- ❖ Adult mosquitoes trapped in the area have tested positive for WNV.
- ❖ Pesticides that target aquatic immature mosquitoes and resting adult mosquitoes in the immediate area have significantly reduced the mosquito population; however infected mosquitoes continue to be collected. This poses a risk of WNV transmission to humans.

The adulticide Scourge® will be used based on environmental conditions at the site. This will provide the best and most targeted control of mosquitoes while minimizing risks to wildlife species present. Fish can be affected, however. Scourge® is a synthetic version of a natural pesticide produced by chrysanthemum flowers. The same ingredients are found in many commercial products used to control insects, including household insecticides, pet sprays, and shampoos. The pesticide is mixed with a light mineral oil and applied as an ultra-low volume spray. This spray will be applied at less than 0.2 fluid ounces of active ingredient per acre. The active ingredient in the pesticide breaks down very rapidly, will leave no residue, and will pose no risk to surrounding neighborhoods.

The District's primary practice is to control mosquitoes by targeting the larval (immature) stages found in standing water. This approach is far more efficient and is safer for non-target species. Using pesticides to kill adult mosquitoes is another method used when larval control measures have not effectively controlled virus transmission cycles.

We encourage residents engaging in outdoor activities in the early morning and evening hours to wear protective clothing (long sleeves and pants) and use mosquito repellents containing DEET. Find and remove all standing water from private property.

West Nile virus has sickened 14 people, and has been detected in nearly 456 dead birds, 15 horses, 235 samples of mosquitoes, and 5 sentinel chickens in California so far in 2004. Current statistics on WNV can be obtained at <http://www.westnile.ca.gov/> or <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/>.

Please contact the District if you have any questions:

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