

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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West Nile Virus Update – August 28, 2024

West Nile Virus has been confirmed in 11 cities across the Valley

West Covina, Calif. (August 28, 2024) — The [San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District](#) (SGVMVCD/District) has confirmed [21 mosquito samples](#) that tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV) to date. These samples have been collected across 11 cities in the San Gabriel Valley.

San Gabriel Valley – West Nile Virus Positive Mosquito Samples		
City/Community	Date First Detected	# of Positive Mosquito Samples this Year
Azusa	7/1/2024	1
Baldwin Park	7/1/2024	6
Bradbury	7/30/2024	1
Claremont	8/13/2024	1
Covina	7/23/2024	2
El Monte	8/20/2024	1
Glendora	7/23/2024	1
Irwindale	7/23/2024	3
La Puente	7/30/2024	3
Monterey Park	7/30/2024	1
Pomona	8/20/2024	1
Total Number of Positive Mosquito Samples this Year		21

“As warm temperatures continue into September, so does mosquito activity,” said Director of Communications Anais Medina Diaz. “It’s important that residents continue taking precautions to protect themselves and their family against mosquito bites and mosquito-transmitted diseases like West Nile virus.”

While the District monitors and controls mosquito populations in public spaces, the most common sources that contribute to high mosquito biting activity can be found on residents’ yards and patios. Additionally, residents must be proactive against mosquito bites by wearing insect repellent because there is no human vaccine or cure for West Nile virus. The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) recommend products with the active ingredients DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus as being safe and effective against mosquitoes when used according to the label.

Mosquito control is a shared responsibility. The District urges residents to take an active role in reducing mosquito populations and the threat of WNV in their communities by taking the following actions to stay healthy and bite-free:

- Tip out stagnant water around the home weekly;
- Toss unused containers that can hold stagnant water; and
- Protect against bites by using insect repellent containing any one of the following [CDC-recommended](#) ingredients: Picaridin, DEET, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (or PMD), or IR3535.

For more information, residents can contact the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District at 626-814-9466, online at [SGVmosquito.org](#), or on social media: [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

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About SGVMVCD

SGVMVCD is one of five vector control districts in Los Angeles County. Year-round, the agency monitors stagnant water sources, such as gutters, storm drains, channels and non-functional swimming pools. The agency also routinely monitors populations of adult mosquitoes using traps and tests groups of adult female mosquitoes for the presence of WNV and other mosquito-borne diseases. In addition, the agency submits samples from dead birds, such as crows, for testing, which can provide insight into the spread of WNV.

About West Nile Virus

According to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, West Nile virus (WNV) is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. One in five individuals infected with the WNV, for which there is no cure, will exhibit symptoms that include fever, headache, body aches, nausea or skin rash. The symptoms can last for several days to months. One in 150 people infected with the virus will require hospitalization. Severe symptoms include high fever, muscle weakness, neck stiffness, coma, paralysis and possibly death. Those at greatest risk include seniors and individuals with compromised immune systems. People over 50 years of age and those with chronic health problems are at higher risk of severe illness. While not all mosquitoes carry this virus, the type of mosquito that spreads this virus is found throughout Los Angeles County.