

West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Press Release:
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Bee Stinging Incident in Chino Hills Prompts Immediate Response From District

Sep 13, 2010 – The West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District received calls from the Chino Valley Fire Department and San Bernardino County Sheriff requesting assistance in regards to bees which had taken up residence in a burned building. The building, located near Eucalyptus Avenue and Bluebell Drive was scheduled for demolition, but the bees were making it impossible for workers to continue.

Several people, including demolition workers and fire personnel were stung. The West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District responded immediately after being informed. The District took the lead and removed the bees from the property.

District Manager Min-Lee Cheng, Ph. D., said, “We must realize that bees are an integral part of our environment. We depend on bees for over one-third of our crop pollination. We must learn to live with honeybees and understand the important roles they play. While most bee swarms and nests can be left alone, they sometimes pose a threat to people. These kinds of cases are rare, but require our immediate attention and expertise. The bees had become defensive and agitated, seeing the demolition workers as a threat. The bees needed to be removed because they were an immediate public health threat.”

The District is not a first responder to emergency situations, but can provide support for emergency personnel. If residents have an emergency situation with bees (i.e. multiple stinging, etc.) call 911 or your local fire or police department. These departments have been trained in emergency procedures and will notify vector control if further assistance is needed.

More information can be viewed at www.wvmosquito.org or www.wvmvcd.org. The District phone number is 909-635-0307. The office is located at 1295 East Locust St. Ontario CA, 91761 and is open Monday-Friday 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.