

Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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PRESS RELEASE

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MORE WEST NILE VIRUS POSITIVE MOSQUITOES CONFIRMED IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY

INDIO, CA, JUNE 11, 2010: The Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control

District received confirmation from UC Davis of 2 more West Nile virus (WNV)

positive mosquito samples in the Coachella Valley. The samples were collected on

June 7, from mosquito traps located in the Mecca area, near the following

locations: Johnson and Avenue 70 and Lincoln and Avenue 70. Today's report

brings the total West Nile virus-positive mosquito samples to 3 for the year in the

Coachella Valley. According to the Riverside County Health Department, there are

NO human cases of West Nile virus in the Coachella Valley up to date.

Due to the WNV activity in these areas the District will be intensifying their surveillance and control measures to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes and interrupt further transmission of the virus.

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WNV is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Most individuals who are infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Others will have only mild symptoms, such as fever, headache and body aches. However, WNV can be severe in young children, the elderly, or individuals with lowered immune systems.

The District continues its extensive surveillance, prevention, and treatment programs throughout the Coachella Valley and urges residents to help reduce mosquito breeding sources by inspecting their backyards and neighborhoods for standing water sources at least once a week.

Individuals can reduce their risk of mosquito-borne diseases by taking these precautions:

- Avoid outdoor activity at dusk and dawn.
- When outdoors, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and other protective clothing.
- Apply insect repellent according to label instructions.
- Make sure that doors and windows have tight fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property that can support mosquito breeding.
- Contact your local mosquito and vector control agency if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live or work.

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Contact the Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District at 760-342-8287 or 1-888-343-9399 to report mosquito problems, request mosquito fish, to report neglected pools or standing water. Service requests can also be submitted online at www.cvmvcd.org.