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San Mateo County Agencies To Team Up In Fight Against Yellow Fever Mosquito

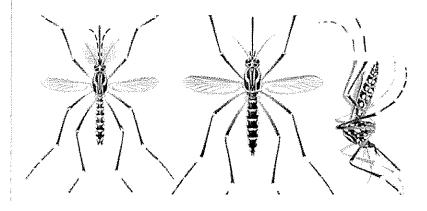
The San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District will team up with the Mento Park Fire Protection District and the San Mateo County Health System next month in an effort to help eradicate a potentially deadly mosquito.

The four-hour event will be held on November 2 at Menlo Park Fire Protection District's Fire Station 4. There, residents will learn about various efforts to eradicate Aedes aegypti, a mosquito known to transmit yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya, and other serious illnesses.

In August, the mosquito's eggs were found and collected at the Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Menlo Park. It was the first time the mosquito's presence had been detected in California. Since that time, eggs and larvae have been discovered elsewhere in the area, which leads expert Robert Gay to believe the insect is embedding itself there.

Attendees of the event can expect a wealth of information, distributed through various pamphlets and other materials. In the meantime, Gay says residents can do their part to help eradicate the bug by eliminating breeding grounds, such as standing water, around their homes.

Read more about the November event here.

















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Three Peninsula agencies spreading the word about yellow fever mosquitoes

San Jose Mercury News Posted:

MercuryNews.com

MENLO PARK - Three agencies plan to join forces early next month to launch a neighborhood response to eliminate any existence of the yellow fever mosquito.

The San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District, along with the Menlo Park Fire Protection District and the San Mateo County Health System, will kick off a four-hour event on Nov. 2 that will include the distribution of materials educating Menlo Park residents on how they can help eradicate the Aedes aegypti or yellow fever mosquito population.

The mosquito, which can transmit yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya and other harmful viruses that cause encephalitis, was first detected in San Mateo County in the form of eggs in August.

While no illnesses have been associated with the yellow fever mosquito in the state, officials are on heightened alert and are taking measures to prevent it, according to the San Mateo County Health System.

On Aug. 23, an egg was collected at the Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Menlo Park, according to the county. The Mosquito and Vector Control District reared the egg to an adult at its laboratory.

The district has since detected egg, larvae and adult forms of the mosquitoes in Menlo Park, suggesting that the invasive mosquito is attempting to establish itself in the area, according to Robert Gay, a mosquito and vector control district manager.

By eliminating all breeding areas around homes and in neighborhoods, Gay said that residents can aid officials in preventing the mosquito from making Menlo Park its home.

The event will begin at the Menlo Park Fire Protection District's Fire Station 4 at 3322 Alameda de las Pulgas in Menlo Park at 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 2. Volunteers will then proceed to assigned areas of the city to spread the word.