



MOSQUITOES IN CALIFORNIA

Mosquitoes are more than a nuisance – they can transmit pathogens that can cause serious diseases in humans and animals. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that mosquitoes are the world's deadliest animal. In California, West Nile virus is the most prevalent and serious disease transmitted by mosquitoes.

FACTS ABOUT MOSQUITOES

- There are more than 50 mosquito species in California. Not all of them are a threat to humans.
- Mosquitoes need standing water to reproduce.
- Mosquito-borne diseases are transmitted when an infected mosquito bites a person or animal.
- Only female mosquitoes bite. Male mosquitoes do not bite and cannot transmit diseases.
- To reduce the risk of mosquito-transmitted diseases wear an EPA-registered repellent to prevent mosquito bites and dump and drain all standing water in and around your home.

WEST NILE VIRUS

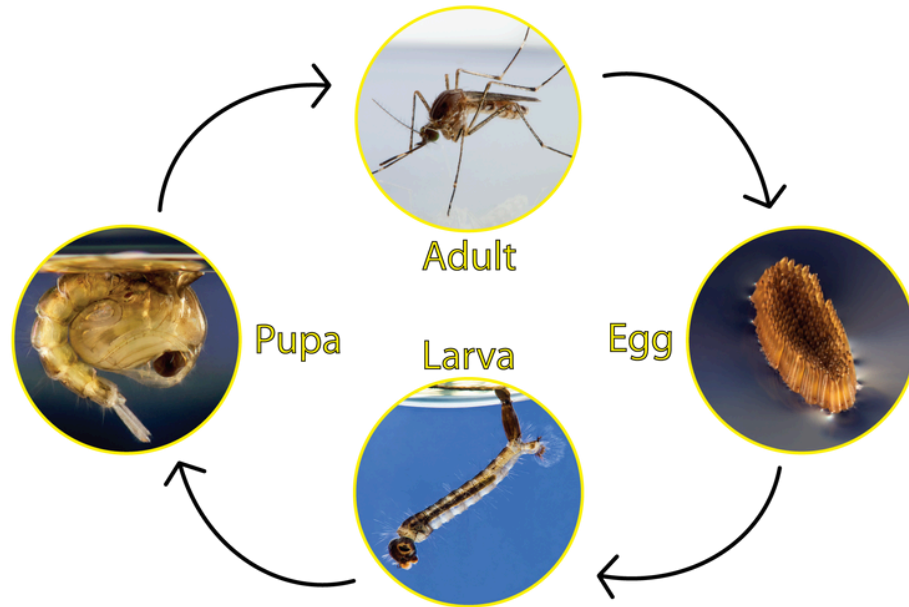
- The main species of mosquitoes that spread West Nile virus are mosquitoes in the *Culex* genus.
- *Culex* mosquitoes are typically active at dawn and dusk.
- West Nile virus has sickened more than 8,000 Californians and killed nearly 400 residents since it was first detected in 2003.
- There is no vaccine to protect against West Nile virus and many other mosquito-transmitted diseases.



Culex mosquitoes are widespread in California

MOSQUITO LIFE CYCLE

- Mosquitoes can develop from eggs to adults in 5-7 days.
- Mosquito eggs can look like small specks of dirt so it's important to scrub containers holding water each week.



MOSQUITO PRODUCTION SOURCES

- Mosquitoes can develop in water sources as small as bottle cap.
- Any amount of standing water can be a mosquito source.
- Invasive mosquitoes tend to develop in and around people's homes.
- Each week dump and drain all standing water to eliminate mosquito sources.

