



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **County of Fresno**

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

David Luchini, Director Dr. Rais Vohra, Interim Health Officer

## **NEWS RELEASE**

May 11, 2022

Public Health Communication (559) 259-1798 or (559) 974-2302

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## WEST NILE VIRUS MOSQUITOES COLLECTED IN FRESNO COUNTY

The Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control District has notified the Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) of West Nile virus (WNV) positive adult mosquitoes collected from the 93702 zip code area within the City of Fresno.

"This confirmation is a strong reminder that everyone should take this disease seriously and should take every precaution to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites," says Dr. Rais Vohra, Fresno County Department of Public Health Interim Health Officer.

The FCDPH recommends that individuals contact their local mosquito control district regarding standing water or mosquito problems, as well as to report any neglected swimming pools. Neglected pools are a major source of mosquito production within the city and rural areas. Protect against mosquito bites and WNV by practicing the "Three Ds":

- 1. DETER Apply insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535 according to label instructions. Repellents keep the mosquitoes from biting you. Insect repellents should not be used on children under two months of age.
- 2. DAWN AND DUSK Mosquitoes usually bite in the early morning and evening, so it is important to wear proper clothing and repellent if outside during these times. Make sure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- 3. DRAIN Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, by emptying flowerpots, old car tires, buckets, and other containers. If you know of a swimming pool that is not being properly maintained, please contact your local mosquito and vector control agency.

All residents are encouraged to report dead birds on the California West Nile website at <a href="www.westnile.ca.gov">www.westnile.ca.gov</a> or by calling toll-free 1-877-WNV-BIRD (968-2473).

Fresno County residents can find their local mosquito abatement district at <a href="https://www.fresnocountymosquito.org">www.fresnocountymosquito.org</a>.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please call (559) 268-6565.

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