FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 19, 2014
Contact: Robert Gay: (650) 918-8640
Brian Weber: (650) 344-8592 x21
Nayer Zahiri (650) 642-4844

MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
1351 Rollins Road
Burlingame, California 94010-2409
PH: (650) 344-8592
FAX: (650) 344-3843
www.smcmad.org

Mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus found in San Mateo and Ladera.
Fogging scheduled for night of July 21, 2014

San Mateo, CALIF. - The San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District (SMCMVCD) detected adult mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus (WNV) collected July 18, 2014 from the 94401 and 94028 ZIP code areas. The District will conduct a mosquito fogging treatment in a half mile radius around each detection site, in an effort to prevent human cases of WNV. Weather permitting; the ground fogging is scheduled for Monday July 21 between 11:00 PM and 5:00 AM.

The District detects West Nile Virus in dead birds and squirrels every year, but District Manager Robert Gay states “this is the first year mosquitoes carrying WNV have been found in San Mateo County.” Mosquitoes carrying WNV were previously detected in the same area of the city of San Mateo on June 19. A map of the fogging locations can be found on the district website, www.smcmad.org. Residents with questions can call the District at (650) 344-8592 Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

West Nile Virus is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito. The primary hosts are birds. Humans, horses and other animals can become infected with WNV if bitten by an infected mosquito. It cannot be spread person to person. Laboratory Director Dr. Nayer Zahiri emphasized that “residents should take precautions to avoid mosquito bites, remove standing water around their homes, and call the District if they are noticing mosquitoes.”

Reports of dead birds are an early indication that the virus is circulating in the environment. Residents are encouraged to help by reporting fresh carcasses of birds or tree squirrels to the West Nile virus hotline, online at www.westnile.ca.gov or by phone at 877-WNV-BIRD (877-968-2473).

To prevent mosquito breeding on your property and to prevent mosquito bites, follow the “Three D’s”:

• DRAIN – Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, including flower pots, old car tires, rain gutters and pet bowls.
• DAWN and DUSK – Mosquitoes 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 mosquitoes out.
• DEET – Apply insect repellent containing DEET, picaridan, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR3535 according to label instructions. Repellents keep the mosquitoes from biting you.

For assistance with a mosquito problem in San Mateo County, contact the District at (650) 344-8592.

For more information on West Nile Virus and other district services, visit us on the web at:
www.smcmad.org
Adult mosquito fogging areas shown inside red circle

SAN MATEO

LADERA

# # # # #