FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mosquito fogging in city of San Mateo scheduled for night of July 30, 2014

San Mateo, CALIF. - The San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District (SMCMVCD) detected adult mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus (WNV) collected July 25, 2014 from the 94402 ZIP code area. The District will conduct truck-mounted mosquito fogging treatment around the detection site, in an effort to prevent human cases of WNV. Weather permitting; the ground fogging is scheduled for Wednesday, July 30 between 9:00 PM and 5:00 AM.

A map of the fogging location 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.

Mosquitoes will be collected in the area after the fogging is complete. If post-treatment mosquito samples are carrying West Nile Virus, the district may fog the area again.

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, picaradin, 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 area shown inside blue outline