

2010  
June

Vector-Borne Disease

Eliminate standing water on your property to control mosquitoes.



Aedes aegypti. Courtesy Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control District.

Vector-borne diseases are bacterial and viral diseases that require insects (e.g., mosquitoes) or arthropods (e.g., ticks) to be transmitted to humans or animals. Worldwide, vector-borne diseases like malaria and yellow fever exact a high toll in human suffering, disability and death.<sup>63,64</sup> West Nile virus and Lyme disease are both vector-borne diseases of concern in Yolo County.

Mosquito control in Yolo County is a full-time, year-round job amidst our canals, sloughs, rice fields, and ponds. The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control District (SYMVCD) is the lead agency for vector control in our area. SYMVCD conducts an extensive mosquito control outreach campaign in addition to other activities. Mosquito control is also a community responsibility. Be sure you and your neighbors eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, including flower pots, old car tires, rain gutters, and pet bowls – mosquitoes breed and lay eggs in standing water. One 5 gallon bucket of water can produce up to 1,000 mosquitoes in one week, and one neglected pool can produce over a million mosquitoes throughout the entire summer.

SYMVC District Mosquito Control Activities, Yolo County, 2008 <sup>52</sup>	Number
Acres of rice field treated	373,000
Catch basin mosquito treatments	28,676
Cemeteries with active vase water control	9
Mosquito pools tested for West Nile virus	1,923
Mosquitofish placed in mosquito breeding sites	1,000,000
Ornamental ponds/neglected pools treated	430
Permanent mosquito surveillance traps	28
Sentinel chicken flocks	7
Sentinel chicken tests for West Nile virus	1,164

Fireworks Safety Month • Home Safety Month • Myasthenia Gravis Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19
20 Father's Day	21 First Day of Summer	22	23	24	25	26
27 National HIV Testing Day	28	29	30	1	2	3

**West Nile Virus (WNV)**

West Nile virus is spread by infected mosquitoes, and may cause serious, life-altering, and even fatal disease. Starting in 2004, West Nile virus has been active in Yolo County and most of California and North America (43 human cases between 2005 through 2009 in Yolo County).<sup>76</sup> Humans, certain birds (e.g., crows and magpies), and horses are most susceptible to West Nile virus.

Protect yourself and your family from West Nile virus:

- DRAIN any standing water
- DAWN and DUSK are times to avoid being outdoors
- DRESS appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants
- DEFEND yourself from mosquitoes by using repellent
- DOOR and window screens should be working

Confirmed West Nile Cases, Yolo County <sup>76</sup>	2005	2006	2007	2008
Human	11	27	2	1
Bird	17	52	25	9
Horse	14	0	0	1



**Lyme Disease**

Lyme disease is caused by a spirochete (a corkscrew-shaped bacteria) called *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted by the western black-legged tick (*Ixodes pacificus*). This disease has been reported in humans and animals from most California counties. Only four confirmed cases of Lyme disease have been reported among Yolo County residents from 2005 through 2008, however ticks carrying *B. burgdorferi* have been identified in the Cache Creek area of Yolo County and throughout other popular hiking and camping destinations in Northern California.<sup>27,76</sup>

**Malaria—It Could Be You!**

Every year a few Yolo County residents return from traveling in areas where vector-borne diseases, like malaria, are common. Since 2005, four Yolo County residents have been diagnosed with malaria and one with dengue fever.<sup>76</sup> All of these cases occurred after travel outside of the U.S. Be sure to consult with your physician before traveling to discuss suggested vaccinations and precautions prior to your trip. Refer also to specific CDC travel recommendations at: [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel).

- California West Nile Virus Web Site
- Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control
- CA Dept. of Public Health Vector-borne Disease
- CDC Travel Recommendations

[www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov)  
[www.fightthebite.net](http://www.fightthebite.net) or call 1-800-429-1022  
[www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vbds/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vbds/Pages/default.aspx)  
[www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel)