



SHASTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 23, 2012

Shasta County Continues West Nile Virus Positives with First Dead Birds and Additional Infected Mosquitoes

The Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District (SMVCD) announced today that three birds and five additional samples of mosquitoes tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). The birds, an American crow, a house finch and a Western Scrub Jay were found widely scattered at different locations within the District. These locations include Redding, Anderson and parts of unincorporated Shasta County.

“We continue to see large amounts of mosquitoes in the majority of our traps and although we have responded assertively to these areas; the warm temperatures and high traps counts continue to be a concern. We know that if these conditions persist we will continue to see positive WNV transmission evidence in our area,” said Peter Bonkrude, District Manager.

The District requests that residents check their properties for mosquito sources and report any neglected standing water, including neglected swimming pools. Additionally, SMVCD staff urges residents to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites; reducing activity during the peak mosquito feeding times at dawn and dusk, wearing effective insect repellent, and staying behind screened windows and doors whenever possible.

Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control advise the public to implement the 3 Ds of protection:

- **D**rain any standing water that may produce mosquitoes.
- **D**efend yourself and your home by using an effective insect repellent and dressing protectively when outside and making sure screens on doors and windows are in good condition.
- **C**ontact the **D**istrict for any additional help controlling mosquito around your home

Our Mission: “To protect the public’s health from vector-borne disease and nuisance, through a comprehensive mosquito and vector control program focused on innovation, experience and efficiency”.

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For more information, contact the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District at (530) 365-3768 or www.shastamosquito.org

2012 Shasta County West Nile virus activity update: **3** dead birds, **0** sentinel chickens, **6** mosquito samples, and **0** humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date. Statewide virus activity update: **805** dead birds, **131** sentinel chickens, **1380** mosquito samples, and **34** humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to 8/22/2012.

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