



NEWS RELEASE

Public Health

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Dead crow tests positive for West Nile Virus in Yucaipa

A dead crow collected in the city of Yucaipa has tested positive for West Nile Virus. This is the first dead bird that has tested positive for West Nile Virus in 2017 in the Yucaipa area. When a dead bird tests positive for West Nile Virus it means people are at a higher risk of being infected with the disease if bitten by a mosquito.

Individuals bitten by an infected mosquito may develop West Nile fever and experience flu-like symptoms that can include fever, body aches, skin rash, and fatigue. In some individuals, West Nile fever can develop into a more serious form of the disease. If you have been bitten by mosquitoes and are experiencing these symptoms, contact your medical care provider.

Residents can protect themselves from WNV by following these tips:

- **Drain or dump** – Remove all standing water around your property where mosquitoes can lay eggs such as birdbaths, green swimming pools, ponds, old tires, buckets, flower pots, clogged gutters, or even puddles from leaky sprinklers.
- **Avoid spending time outdoors at dawn and dusk** – this is when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Dress appropriately when outdoors** – Wear shoes, socks, and long pants and long-sleeved shirts that are loose fitting and light colored.
- **Apply insect repellent** – Check that your insect repellent contains, DEET, PICARDIN, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus according to manufacturer's directions and apply it according to manufacturer's directions.
- **Doors** – Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.

Property owners with pools are encouraged to keep them clean. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in unmaintained green pools and can fly up to 1.5 miles per hour, potentially transmitting the virus and impacting entire neighborhoods.

To learn more about West Nile virus or to report a dead bird please visit www.westnile.ca.gov. For more information or to report a green pool or mosquito breeding source, contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health Division of Environmental Health Services at (800) 442-2283 or visit our website at <http://wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/programs/ehs/mosquito-vector-control/>.

