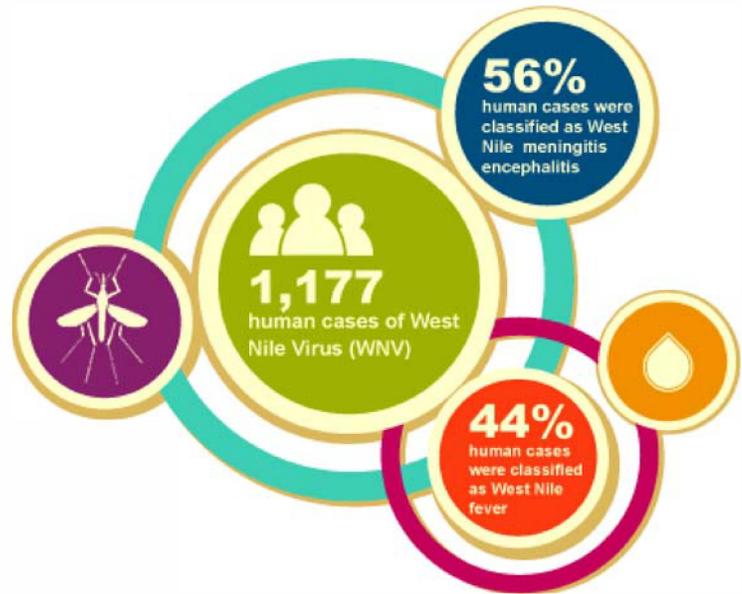


October 2014  
Volume 4, Issue 2

## West Nile Virus Update

As of September 30, 2014, there have been 1,177 human cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) reported nationally to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Of these, 656 (56%) of the human cases were classified as West Nile neuroinvasive disease (i.e. meningitis or encephalitis). The remaining 521 (44%) cases are the less severe form of the disease, West Nile fever.

So far this year, California has had a total of 428 human cases of WNV. Eleven of those were in San Bernardino County. There have been no fatalities reported so far. Human cases in San Bernardino County remain low compared to the state average. The County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health Division of Environmental Health Services' (EHS) Mosquito and Vector Control Program (MVCP) continues to protect the County from WNV through proactive inspections, education, abatement and surveillance.



MVCP's office has moved to a new location! Our new address is **248 South Sierra Way, Unit E, San Bernardino, CA 92408.**

## Day Biting Mosquitoes

Two new types of mosquitoes have been found in California: the Asian Tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) and the Yellow Fever mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*). Though common in other parts of the world, they had previously not been identified in California. Both types of mosquitoes can carry WNV but can also spread diseases such as dengue, yellow fever, and Chikungunya. Most mosquitoes in San Bernardino County bite at dawn and dusk, but the Asian Tiger mosquito and Yellow Fever mosquito can bite at any time of day.

The Asian Tiger mosquito and the Yellow Fever mosquito have not been found in San Bernardino County. However, if you or anyone you know are being bitten during the daytime, please report it to your local vector control agency and save the specimen for identification if possible. You can find your local vector control agency by entering your zip code [here](#).



Asian Tiger mosquito. Photo courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control.



Yellow Fever mosquito. Photo courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control.

---

### Mosquito Fish



MVCP is offering FREE mosquito fish to all County residents within MVCP's jurisdiction. These mosquito fish are to be used on private property to reduce the potential for mosquito breeding. One request may be made per year for each household. A valid form of California identification, a utility bill or other official document indicating residence is required to verify jurisdictional residence. Enter your zip code [here](#) to determine if you are within MVCP's jurisdiction.

To receive mosquito fish, visit the MVCP office during regular business hours at 248 South Sierra Way, Unit E, San Bernardino, CA 92408 and complete a Mosquito Fish Request form. To print the Mosquito Fish Request form, [click here](#).

**NOTE:** Distribution of mosquito fish is subject to availability.

To learn more about mosquito fish, [click here](#).

---

### How Can I Help Prevent West Nile Virus?

To aid in the prevention of WNV, it is very important that property owners remove all sources of stagnant water from their property. San Bernardino County residents with pools are urged to keep them properly maintained. Mosquitoes breed in very large numbers in stagnant water and green pools.

[Click here](#) to download a brochure with more important facts on WNV prevention. If you're a senior, [click here](#) to download a brochure with information about how to keep yourself safe from WNV.

You can report dead birds to the California West Nile Virus website at [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov). For more information or to report a green pool or mosquito breeding source, contact the Division of Environmental Health Services at (800) 442-2283 or visit our website at [www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs](http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs).

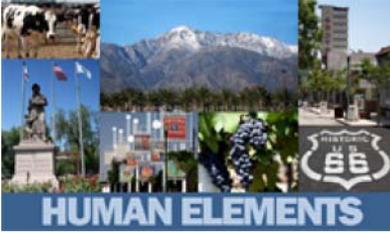


---

### Human Elements

Environmental health affects everyone, whether it is drinking water, dining out at restaurants, swimming in a public pool or simply walking outdoors. Many of the people we serve are not aware of the services provided by DEHS or the critical role we play in protecting public health. DEHS created *Human Elements*, a web-based booklet focused on the services we provide, and how crucial they are in protecting public health and safety. *Human Elements* includes information pertaining to our role in vector control, food protection, recreational health, safe drinking water, housing, organized camps, body art, medical waste, wastewater, solid waste, and land use and describes our role in emergency operation response.

You can access *Human Elements* by visiting [www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs](http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs) or by [clicking here](#).



## New DEHS Portal

We have launched our new online portal, where you can easily access all inspection reports, stay up-to-date with the latest recalls for food products and our Current News, submit a complaint, and pay your Health Permit. Visit [www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs](http://www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs) to check it out or [click here!](#)



## Stay Connected to DEHS with Social Media

Follow our social media sites to get the latest news on food safety and foodborne illness prevention, mosquito and vector control, pool safety and drowning prevention, and more!

### Environmental Health Today



[Facebook](#) [Pinterest](#) [Twitter](#) [YouTube](#) [Instagram](#)

### Salud Ambiental Para Hoy



[Facebook en Español](#) [Pinterest en Español](#) [Twitter en Español](#) [YouTube en Español](#)

*If you have any questions or comments, please contact Lana Cao, Health Education Specialist I, at 800-442-2283 or [Lana.Cao@dph.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Lana.Cao@dph.sbcounty.gov).*

