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MOSQUITO CONTROL PROCEEDS WITH PLAN

--Aerial Treatment of Adult Mosquitoes Begins Thursday Evening in Yolo County

ELK GROVE, Calif., July 31, 2006 – The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (SYMVCD) announced today that aerial treatment for adult mosquitoes that may carry the potentially fatal West Nile virus is scheduled for Thursday, August 3 and Friday, August 4 from approximately 8:00 p.m. to midnight, weather dependent.

Over the last several months, the District has tracked the spread of West Nile virus through dead bird reports, mosquito samples, sentinel chickens and human cases. Based on the surveillance data collected, as well as the high infection rates of mosquitoes tested, aerial adult mosquito treatment has been deemed necessary to protect public health and welfare, specifically in the City of Davis and the City of Woodland. Areas include, but are not limited to, parks, open spaces and residential neighborhoods. For a complete schedule, location(s) and additional information please visit the District's Web site at FIGHTtheBITE.net/Treatment.

7Ds.

DRAIN any standing water that may produce mosquitoes. **DAWN** and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outdoors. These are the times when mosquitoes are most active. **DRESS** appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outside. **DEFEND** yourself against mosquitoes by using an effective insect repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Make sure you follow label directions! **DOOR** and window screens should be in good working condition. This will prevent mosquitoes from entering your home. **DISTRICT** personnel are also available to address any mosquito problem you may be experiencing by calling 1-800-429-1022 or visiting the District's Web site at FIGHTtheBITE.net.

West Nile virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), West Nile virus (WNV) is the leading cause of arboviral encephalitis in the United States. Originally discovered in Africa in 1937, WNV was first detected in the western hemisphere in 1999 in New York City. Since then it has caused seasonal epidemics of West Nile virus fever and severe neurological disease. West Nile virus is transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when they feed on infected birds. The elderly, immune-compromised and diabetics are most susceptible to illness caused by WNV.

West Nile virus activity for Sacramento and Yolo Counties: This year, **26** dead birds, **35** mosquito samples, **6** sentinel chickens (presence of antibodies), **0** equines and **2** humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

The District is at LEVEL 4 of their response plan, for details visit us online at FIGHTtheBITE.net/mediacorner/plan

The **Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District** provides mosquito and vector control services for Sacramento and Yolo Counties.

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