



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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NEWS RELEASE

Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control District
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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West Nile Virus Activity in Fresno County 2016 **Mosquito Season Increases Risk for West Nile Virus and Exotic Mosquito-Borne Illnesses**

The Fresno County Department of Public Health (FCDPH) has been notified by the California Department of Public Health's West Nile Virus Surveillance division of the first positive evidence of West Nile Virus (WNV) activity in Fresno County this year in five mosquito pools within the City of Fresno.

Detection of West Nile Virus in the *Culex* mosquito reaffirms that WNV is endemic here and remains a serious health threat. Mosquito season is in full bloom with increased mosquito activity, including the spread of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes. The presence of these mosquitoes heighten the nuisance from mosquito bites and the risk of additional mosquito-borne illnesses such as Dengue fever, Chikungunya, and Zika virus, especially coupled with travel out of the country.

The Fresno County Department of Public Health and Fresno County Mosquito Abatement Districts would like to encourage Fresno County residents to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and eliminate any water sources, including small containers, that provide sites for mosquito development.

Mosquito season and travel out of the country heightens the potential for local transmission of Dengue fever, Chikungunya and Zika virus. Help keep these exotic mosquito-borne illnesses out of Fresno County by preventing mosquito bites, with proper use of insect repellents, while traveling and when you return home.

To learn more about WNV and preventing mosquito bites visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/>

To learn more about mosquito-borne illnesses visit the [FCDPH Mosquito-Borne Illness](#) page.

Residents can also visit www.fresnomosquito.org

Please contact the Fresno County Department of Public Health at (559) 259-1798 or Fresno Mosquito and Vector Control District at (559) 268-6565 for more information.

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Promotion, preservation and protection of the community's health

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