



**Greater Los Angeles County
Vector Control District**
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INFORMATION RELEASE

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**GLACVCD Urges Residents to Protect Themselves Against West Nile Virus:
*Following simple prevention steps can save lives***

Los Angeles, CA— The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) is appealing to residents to remember to take proper precautions against mosquito bites and West Nile virus (WNV) in light of this summer's incessant threat. GLACVCD has reported another 6 WNV positive dead birds and 33 WNV positive mosquito samples this week.

Of the 6 WNV positive dead birds collected, one was collected in Norwalk (zip code 90650), one in Pico Rivera (zip code 90660), one in Studio City (zip code 91604), one in Valley Village (zip code 91607), one in Van Nuys (zip code 91405), and one in Woodland Hills (zip code 91367).

Please refer to the chart below for a breakdown of the 33 WNV positive mosquito samples identified this past week.

City or Community	Zip Code(s)	Number of WNV+ mosquito samples collected
Bell	90201	1
Burbank	91505	3
Carson	90745	1
Cerritos	90703	2
Diamond Bar	91765	2
Encino	91436	3
Granada Hills	91344	1
La Mirada	90638	2
Northridge	91326	1
Norwalk	90650	1
Pico Rivera	90660	7
Rowland Heights	91748	2
San Marino	91108	1
Studio City	91604	1
Sunland	91040	1
Whittier	90604	1
Winnetka	91306	2
Woodland Hills	91367	1

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This is the first incidence of West Nile virus activity in Bell and Carson for 2011.

This brings the District's total to 51 WNV positive dead birds, 207 WNV positive mosquito samples, and four sentinel chickens with antibodies so far this year. Statewide, there have been 174 WNV positive dead birds and 609 WNV positive mosquito samples.

"We know that residents are faced with a multitude of obligations and concerns on a daily basis," says Public Information Officer Crystal Brown. "GLACVCD is asking residents to just take a brief pause and remember to apply insect repellent when they are outdoors between dusk and dawn and to eliminate breeding sources around their homes. These prevention measures are easy to follow, don't require a lot of time, and can save lives."

Residents can be proactive and follow the 3 D's of West Nile virus prevention to help stop the transmission of West Nile virus:

1. Dump/Drain

Eliminate standing water on your property because that's where mosquitoes breed.

2. Dusk/Dawn

Avoid outdoor activities when mosquitoes are most active.

3. Defend

Wear insect repellent containing EPA-registered ingredients such as DEET, Picaridin or Lemon Eucalyptus Oil and long-sleeve shirts and pants when outdoors. Use properly-fitted screens free from tears on windows and doors around your home to keep mosquitoes out.

West Nile virus is transmitted to people and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. There is no cure for West Nile virus. One in five persons infected with West Nile virus will exhibit symptoms. Symptoms usually occur between 5 and 15 days and can include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, or a skin rash. These symptoms can last for several weeks to months. One in 150 people infected with the virus will require hospitalization. Severe symptoms include high fever, muscle weakness, neck stiffness, coma, paralysis, and possibly death.

GLACVCD recommends that individuals exhibiting these symptoms following a mosquito bite consult a physician as soon as possible. Those at highest risk for severe cases of West Nile virus are children, the elderly and people with weakened immune systems.

For more information about West Nile virus and our vector control services, please contact Public Information Officer Crystal Brown at the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656 x511 or visit www.glacvcd.org. For statewide information and statistics about West Nile virus, or to report a dead bird or squirrel, visit www.westnile.ca.gov or call **1-877-WNV BIRD**.

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