



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

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For Immediate Release

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## West Nile virus Positive Mosquitoes Identified in Cerritos: Residents Urged to Take Precautions

**Los Angeles, CA-** The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) has confirmed a West Nile virus positive (WNV+) mosquito sample from the City of Cerritos in zip code 90703. This positive sample comes directly after last week's confirmation of two WNV+ dead birds in Cerritos.

Susanne Klueh, GLACVCD's Director of Scientific and Technical Services, states that this is the first detection of West Nile virus in Southern House Mosquitoes in the Los Angeles Basin this season. "As a result, disease risk is elevated and residents should take precautions by wearing insect repellent when outdoors between dusk and dawn," she says. Klueh extended the warning to residents in other areas of the District that have not confirmed virus activity this summer. "Just because the virus has not been detected in your neighborhood does not mean you are not at risk."

The District would like to remind residents to take an active role in protecting themselves and their families by doing the following:

- Get rid of containers that have standing water, which is where mosquitoes breed.
- Make sure that doors and windows have tight fitting screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.
- Wear light-colored, long, loose clothing, such as long sleeve shirts and pants when outdoors. Keep in mind that mosquitoes can bite through thin or tight clothes.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors.
- Stay indoors between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Apply approved insect repellent whenever you are outdoors, even for a short period of time. Choose a repellent based on the duration of an activity. Remember, when you are sweating, physically active, or getting wet, some repellents may not last long.

-More-

## News Fax / P. 2

The public is encouraged to report dead birds to help with West Nile virus surveillance and control efforts, as birds play an important role in maintaining and spreading the virus. The California Department of Public Health's toll-free hotline is 877-WNV BIRD and website is [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov).

For more information please call the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656 or visit [www.glacvcd.org](http://www.glacvcd.org).

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