



# SHASTA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

19200 Latona Road, Anderson, CA 96007  
Telephone: (530) 365-3768 Fax: (530) 365-0305  
Web: [shastamosquito.org](http://shastamosquito.org)

Contact: District Office  
Ph# 530-365-3768

E-mail: [contact@shastamosquito.org](mailto:contact@shastamosquito.org)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT  
*Darin Hale*  
ANDERSON

VICE PRESIDENT  
*Philip Cramer*  
REDDING

SECRETARY  
*Dave Maron*  
SHASTA COUNTY

*Ann Morningstar*  
SHASTA LAKE

*Jon Knight*  
SHASTA COUNTY

ADMINISTRATION  
*Darcy Buckalew*  
MANAGER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 12, 2024

### FIRST WEST NILE VIRUS IN SHASTA MVCD THIS YEAR

The Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) confirmed the first mosquito sample to test positive for West Nile virus (WNV) in Shasta County for 2024. The mosquitoes sampled were detected in Shingletown, in the eastern parts of the District.

Our District staff routinely trap and monitor mosquito populations throughout the summer and test those samples for diseases like WNV, St. Louis Encephalitis virus, and Western Equine Encephalitis virus. We use those test results to analyze the risks of disease transmission for our residents, inform the public about mosquito bite prevention, and respond with strategic control measures in the most safe, effective, and timely manner possible to protect public health in our county.

“While this is unusual to have the first WNV detection at this high elevation, we do anticipate additional disease activity throughout our District as the summer progresses,” stated Darcy Buckalew, District Manager. “The mosquitoes that can transmit WNV in our area thrive in these triple-digit temperatures, with accelerated mosquito growth and increased disease development. We are unlikely to see a reduction in mosquito breeding for a while.”

In response to the WNV positive testing information, District staff will be increasing immature mosquito monitoring in the area. Additionally, the District will be conducting ultra-low volume (ULV) adult mosquito control in the areas where mosquito activity and potential disease transmission risk continues.

Residents may receive email or text notifications for upcoming adult mosquito treatments. To sign up, go to [Mosquito Control Notifications](#) on our website.

As the days continue with high temperatures and residents spend an increased amount of time outdoors during dusk and dawn, the risk of mosquito bites also increases. SMVCD is charged with protecting the health of the District residents from mosquito and vector-borne diseases, but they cannot do it alone. SMVCD staff urges residents to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites by implementing the 4 Ds of protection: **-MORE-**

---

*Our Mission: “To protect the public’s health from vector-borne disease and nuisance, through a comprehensive mosquito and vector control program focused on innovation, experience and efficiency”.*

- **D**rain any standing water that may produce mosquitoes, including old tires, buckets, gutters, and flowerpots and saucers. Some species of mosquitoes can lay their eggs in very small sources of water, like a bottle cap.
- **D**efend yourself and your home by using an [effective insect repellent](#) and making sure screens on doors and windows are in good condition.
- **D**usk or **D**awn, avoid outside activities during peak mosquito feeding times.
- **D**ress in long sleeves and pants when mosquitoes are active.

For more information about SMVCD's services, West Nile virus, or new emerging mosquito-borne diseases, contact the Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District at (530) 365-3768 or visit [www.ShastaMosquito.org](http://www.ShastaMosquito.org).

**2024** Shasta County West Nile virus activity: **0** dead birds, **0** sentinel chickens, **1** mosquito sample, and **0** humans tested positive for West Nile virus.

**2024** California West Nile virus activity: **84** dead birds, **0** sentinel chickens, **269** mosquito samples, and **0** humans tested positive for West Nile virus.

#