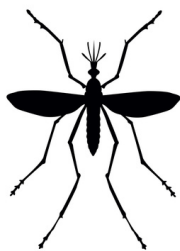


# THE VALLEY BUZZ

JUNE 2026



## ANTELOPE VALLEY MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT



@avmosquito



BY BRENNA BATES-GRUBB  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST

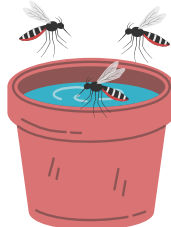
Hello Antelope Valley!

So far this season, surveillance efforts have shown expected levels of mosquito activity around town for this time of year. We have detected invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes in two new areas around town. One detection near Elizabeth Lake Road and 15th Street West and the other detection near 6th Street East and Avenue R8. *Aedes* mosquitoes complete their lifecycle in very small sources of stagnant water. Any item that can hold even the smallest amount of standing water for more than 3 days can become a source of mosquitoes. The best way to get rid of *Aedes* mosquitoes is to walk around the yard looking for any container: Plant saucers, buckets, watering cans, recycling receptacles, tarps, kiddie pools, children's toys and so on - that might be holding residual rain or sprinkler water and DUMP it out. Doing this will intercept the mosquito lifecycle while they are in their immature form before they become a flying, biting, nuisance problem. As always, our technicians are out running their regular treatment routes and responding to unmaintained pools and areas of stagnant water around town to treat the water in order to prevent mosquitoes.

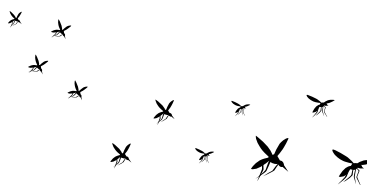
The invasive *Aedes* mosquito is a very aggressive biter. Residents really notice its presence because *Aedes* mosquitoes specifically target humans for a blood meal over any other type of animal. Bites tend to be numerous and often occur below the knee. This is why *Aedes* mosquitoes have been coined "ankle biters". If you're receiving daytime bites, please report it to us. Your input helps us target mosquito hotspots more effectively and keeps our neighborhoods healthier and more comfortable. Together, we can reduce mosquito breeding and protect the health and comfort of our community.

### Additional Personal mosquito control measures include:

- Using an EPA-approved insect repellent that contains one of these active ingredients: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or IR3535
- Disposing of any unused items that can hold standing water
- Keeping windows and doors shut or properly screened to prevent mosquitoes in the home
- Refreshing pet water, bird baths and other permanent fixtures at least weekly
- Keeping pools, fountains, ponds and other water features fully maintained or completely dry throughout the warm season



Scan here for more ways to prevent mosquitoes around your home:



### DID YOU KNOW?!

In California, the main mosquito-borne illness of concern is West Nile virus. West Nile virus was first detected in California near El Centro in Imperial County in 2003 and has since spread throughout the state.



West Nile virus symptoms can include fever, headache, body aches, fatigue, and sometimes rash; severe cases may cause neurological illness or even death.



Most infections are mild, but prevention is key. Protect yourself by preventing mosquito bites: Using insect repellent, wearing long sleeves and pants when mosquitoes are present, installing window screens, and eliminating standing water where mosquitoes breed.





## TECHNICIAN'S TIPS



Community effort  
is essential for  
*Aedes* mosquito  
mitigation  
because these  
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### WHY DOES COMMUNITY EFFORT MATTER IN MOSQUITO CONTROL?

Community effort is essential for *Aedes* mosquito mitigation because these mosquitoes thrive in and around places where people live, and most of their breeding sites are created unintentionally on private property. Unlike some other mosquito species that develop in larger natural water bodies, *Aedes* mosquitoes prefer to lay eggs in very small amounts of standing water found in everyday items like buckets, plant saucers, clogged gutters, toys, birdbaths, and discarded containers. Because these breeding sources are widespread and often hidden in backyards, no single agency, including our District, can effectively control them alone.

When entire neighborhoods take action together, the impact is much greater. If even a small percentage of homes allow standing water to remain, mosquito populations can quickly rebound and spread to surrounding areas. Community-wide participation helps eliminate breeding sites consistently, reducing the overall mosquito population and lowering the risk of mosquito-borne disease transmission.

Our District provides education, surveillance, and treatment in public areas and unmaintained swimming pools when necessary, but long-term success depends on residents actively inspecting their properties on a regular basis and removing standing water. Simple actions—like tipping out containers, changing pet water frequently, maintaining pools, and keeping yards clear of debris—add up significantly when practiced across an entire community.

Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes are also aggressive daytime biters, which increases the likelihood of human contact and potential disease spread. This makes source reduction even more important, since fewer breeding sites mean fewer biting mosquitoes in shared outdoor spaces. Ultimately, community cooperation turns mosquito control from a reactive effort into a preventive one. When residents and vector control districts work together, neighborhoods become healthier, safer, and far less hospitable to invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes.

#### Contact us!

M–Th 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Fri 8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

661.942.2917

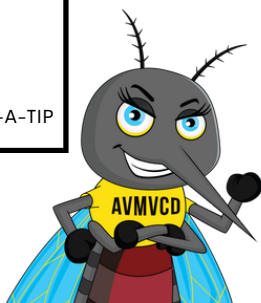
[www.avmosquito.org](http://www.avmosquito.org)

#### REPORT A DIRTY POOL!

E-mail: [info@avmosquito.org](mailto:info@avmosquito.org)

Phone: 661.942.2917

Web: [WWW.AVMOSQUITO.ORG/SUBMIT-A-TIP](http://WWW.AVMOSQUITO.ORG/SUBMIT-A-TIP)



Scan here to learn more about how you can get  
rid of *Aedes* mosquitoes around your home!



Happiness and Health,  
The Antelope Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District