



155 Mason Circle • Concord, CA 94520  
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## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release:

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### **SENTINEL CHICKENS, MORE BIRDS TEST POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE VIRUS IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

*– Antioch and Brentwood remain areas of high risk for West Nile virus infection–*

**CONCORD, CALIFORNIA** - - The Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District is reporting two chickens and six dead birds that have tested positive for West Nile virus this past week. One of the chickens was from Holland Tract and one chicken was from Oakley. One of the birds was from Pittsburg, one was from Oakley, one was from Orinda, and three were from Brentwood. Antioch and Brentwood remain high risk areas for West Nile virus infection in Contra Costa County.

In Contra Costa County to date this year, one person, 57 dead birds, 23 groups of mosquitoes, five squirrels, and two chickens have tested positive for West Nile virus. Thirty-eight of those birds, 15 of the mosquito samples and all five squirrels have been from Antioch.

“Wearing mosquito repellent is important,” said Carlos Sanabria, operations manager with the District. “For everyone in Contra Costa County, but especially for residents in Brentwood where the West Nile virus risk area continues to expand.”

The District is urging all residents to maintain water features in their yards and to report abandoned or neglected swimming pools. Abandoned or neglected swimming pools are a significant source of mosquitoes in Contra Costa County and each one can produce hundreds of thousands of mosquitoes and affect residents up to a five-mile radius. Infected mosquitoes can transmit West Nile virus, a debilitating and potentially fatal disease.

Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District is located at 155 Mason Circle in Concord. Call the District to report mosquito problems at (925) 771-6195, or visit their office between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to get FREE mosquitofish for ornamental ponds or horse troughs. Mosquitofish are also available at City of Antioch Corporation Yard, 1201 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Antioch, CA, Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

People wishing to be notified about adult mosquito fogging or spraying have several options. They may visit the District’s Web site at [www.ccmvcd.dst.ca.us](http://www.ccmvcd.dst.ca.us) and opt to receive the notifications automatically by email, they can view information on the District Web site, or they may phone the District for a recorded message at (925) 771-6195.

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IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

For information concerning human West Nile virus symptoms, prevention, or testing, please call the Contra Costa Health Services department at (888) 959-9911 or visit their website at [www.ccpublichealth.org](http://www.ccpublichealth.org). Human West Nile virus cases can be found at <http://westnile.ca.gov/> . For detailed information, please select WNV Reports link to the right of your screen.

For information concerning West Nile virus and horses, please visit the California Department of Food and Agriculture Animal Health Branch at [www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/wnv\\_info.htm](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah/wnv_info.htm) or call them at (916) 654-1447.

Dead birds should be reported to 877-WNV-BIRD (877-968-2473) or [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov) . Not all birds will be picked up and tested, but reporting dead birds provides important information for mosquito control efforts.

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