

Butte County Mosquito & Vector Control District

Since 1948

2nd Quarter, 2025

Newsletter

MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE

Mosquito numbers are on the rise across Butte County, and our team is in high gear! The District is actively monitoring for West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne illnesses using traps, sentinel chickens, mosquito pools, and testing dead wild birds.

We've also detected the return of *Aedes aegypti*, an invasive mosquito known to spread yellow fever, dengue, and Zika—though there's currently no local transmission of these viruses in Butte County.

Our fully staffed surveillance and control crews are hard at work, focusing on treating breeding sites with larvicide to help keep mosquito populations down.

Urban

Storm Drains, Catch Basins, Swimming Pools, Containers, Tires, Gutters, Storm Water Channels, Etc.

Rural

Roadside Ditches, Pastures, Sewer Ponds, Sumps, Canal Leakage, Containers, Tires, Tree-Holes, Etc.

Agricultural

Rice, Wetlands, Orchard Runoff, Ditches, Pump Leaks, Containers, Tires, Wildlife Area Ponds, Etc.

Tip: Drain standing water and use repellent to protect yourself!

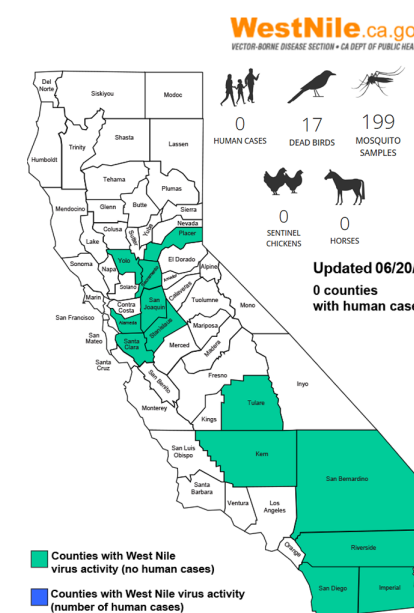


Identifying Mosquitoes

Larval Dipping

Adult Mosquitoes

WEST NILE VIRUS ACTIVITY



As of June 25th, 2025, West Nile virus (WNV) has not been found in Butte County using any of our sampling techniques.

WNV has been found in 13 Californian counties. Many in southern California and near the bay area.

AERIAL OPERATIONS

As of June 25th, 2025, aerial operations has treated 7,842 acres of rice and 2,983 acres of wetlands. The District welcomes Ed Parra, Pilot II, and Preston Parcell, Pilot I, to the team.

7,842ac **2,983ac**
Rice Wetlands



Thrush Aircraft - N533MC - 'Le Frog'



5117 Larkin Road
Oroville, CA. 95965

Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District is primarily to suppress mosquito-transmitted disease and also to reduce the annoyance levels of mosquitoes and diseases associated with ticks, fleas and other vectors through environmentally compatible control practices and public education.

MOSQUITOFISH

Requested by phone or website

Free mosquitofish available for pickup at these locations:

Oroville

BCMVC

5117 Larkin Rd.
(530) 533-6038

Ace Hardware

1845 Mitchell Ave.
(530) 533-5600

Gridley

Ace Hardware

1626 State Hwy 99
(530) 846-3625

Concow

The Pine's Yankee Hill

11300 Miller Flat Rd.
(530) 534-1265

Butte Valley

Earthworm Soil Factory

2552 Clark Rd.
(530) 895-9676

Hamilton City

Fire Department

4120 1st St.
(530) 826-3355

Paradise

Déjà Vu Gardens

5424 Foster Rd.
(530) 877-7341

Foothill Mill & Lumber

1698 Wagstaff Rd.
(530) 877-3395



Chico

BCMVC Substation

444 Otterson Dr.
(530) 533-6038

C Bar D Feeds

3388 State Hwy 32
(530) 342-5361

Magnolia Gift & Garden

1367 East Ave.
(530) 894-5410

Wilbur's Feed

139 Meyers St.
(530) 895-0559

CONTACT INFORMATION

Butte County Mosquito & Vector Control District

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www.buttemosquito.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

MOSQUITO LIFE CYCLE

There are more than 3,500 species of mosquitoes around the world

In California, we have about 50 species and of those, only a few are considered public health threats due to their potential to transmit mosquito-borne diseases to humans. People who have been bitten by a mosquito infected with viruses such as West Nile, Saint Louis Encephalitis, Dengue, and Zika may develop life-threatening or life-altering diseases. For the District and residents of Butte County to effectively reduce mosquito populations and the chance of getting a mosquito-borne disease, it is important to understand the habits and behaviors of the different mosquito species.

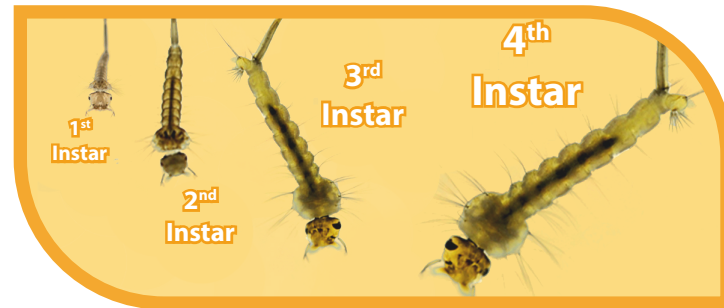
All mosquitoes must have water to complete their lifecycle.

This water can range in quality and it can be in any container imaginable. The mosquito goes through four separate and distinct stages of its lifecycle: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. Some species can go through their entire life cycle in as little as four days.

Egg

Eggs are laid on or near water or where water will be. They may be laid one at a time or stuck together in rafts of 100-300 eggs. Most eggs hatch into larvae within 48 hours of coming into contact with water.

Eggs vary in form between different species.



Larva

Larvae live in water and breathe air from the surface. Larvae feed on micro-organisms and organic matter in the water. They shed their skin four times growing larger after each molt. The stages between molts are called instars. When the 4th instar larva molts it becomes a pupa.



Pupa

Mosquito pupae also float at the water surface and breathe air. When disturbed, they dive in a tumbling motion and then float back to the surface. The pupal stage does not eat food. This is the time the mosquito turns into an adult. It takes two days before the adult is fully developed.



Adult

Newly emerged adults rest on the surface of the water for a short time to allow itself to dry before taking flight. Female mosquitoes feed to get a sufficient blood meal to develop eggs. Male mosquitoes feed only on plant nectar. The life span of the adult mosquito usually depends on several factors: species, temperature, humidity, gender, and time of year. Males live shorter lives.

PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

The District's ongoing public education campaign has been off to a strong start with several successful events already completed. The Home & Garden Show, Earth Day Block Party, Gold Nugget Craft Faire, Kids Free Fishing Day, and Red Suspenders Days were particularly well-received. These events featured an impressive insect exhibit, showcasing mosquitofish and mosquito larvae, along with complimentary items such as fly and mosquito swatters, tick identification cards, recyclable shopping bags, and mosquito repellent.

The District has partnered with Lamar Advertising on a billboard, bus, and bus stop shelter campaign. This year's slogan is:

"Don't Let Small Bugs Become Big Problems"



Moreover, the District has partnered with Action News Now to produce a 30-second animated public service announcement and to feature the "Skeeter" buzz activity during the weather report, both aimed at raising mosquito awareness and enhancing outreach efforts.

Lastly, the District will continue its outreach through radio and print public service announcements. Radio ads are set to air on Deer Creek Broadcasting and Results Radio stations, while detailed information on mosquito prevention measures and contact details for the District will be featured in local printed materials.

