



Marin/Sonoma  
**Mosquito & Vector Control District**  
595 Helman Lane, Cotati Ca 94931 [www.msosquito.com](http://www.msosquito.com)

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## ~ News Release ~

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 08, 2007

### **Five Birds Test Positive for West Nile Virus**

**(Cotati)**, California November 8, 2007-The Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) received confirmation from the California State Health Department that five (5) dead birds tested positive for West Nile virus in Marin and Sonoma Counties.

The birds were reported from the following locations:

**Sonoma County:** *One (1) American Crow submitted on 10/30/07 from the area of Oakfarm lane in Santa Rosa; One (1) Sharp-Shinned Hawk submitted 10/25/07 from the area of Vinecrest Circle in Windsor; One (1) Cedar Waxwing submitted on 10/25/07 from the area of Lavell Rd in Santa Rosa and One (1) American Coot submitted on 10/26/07 from the area of Day Dei Rd in Windsor.*

**Marin County:** *One (1) Swains's Thrush submitted on 10/24/07 from the area of Lagunitas Rd in Ross.*

“As we proceed into the rainy season is it important to eliminate areas that have the potential to produce mosquitoes” District Manager Jim Wanderscheid said. “If residents take the time now to rid their gutters of debris and remove or cover items that can hold water it will help to reduce mosquito production next spring after the rain subsides”Wanderscheid stated.

#### **2007 West Nile virus activity:**

**Sonoma County:** 2 equine cases, 1 human, 18 birds, 0 squirrels, 0 sentinel chickens, 1 mosquito pool have tested positive for West Nile virus.

**Marin County:** 4 birds have tested positive for West Nile virus.

#### **2006 West Nile virus activity:**

**Sonoma County:** 21 dead birds, 1 equine fatality, 2 mosquito pools, 0 humans, 1 sentinel chicken tested positive for West Nile virus.

**Marin County:** 8 dead birds, 1 equine fatality, 3 mosquito pools, 1 human, 1 Western Gray squirrel, 2 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus.

West Nile virus is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on an infected bird. Symptoms of WNV range from mild flu-like conditions, such as fever, headache, and nausea to a stiff neck, restlessness, stupor, delirium, and convulsions. Most cases are mild; however, fatalities can occur in extreme cases.

*The Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District is a public health agency funded by property taxes and committed to protecting the public from mosquitoes and mosquito-borne disease. Please visit our website for more information [www.msosquito.com](http://www.msosquito.com) or call us toll-free at 1-800-231-3236.*