



MARIN/SONOMA
MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
595 Helman Lane, Cotati Ca 94931 ~1.800.231.3236~www.ms mosquito.com

~ News Release ~

Contact: Nizza Sequeira, Public Relations Director

Office: (707)285-2093 Cell: 707-974-7073

E-mail: nizzas@msmosquito.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 7, 2008

West Nile Virus Update

~Three more birds tested positive for West Nile virus in Sonoma County

COTATI, CALIFORNIA- The Marin/Sonoma Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) received confirmation that three more dead birds have tested positive for West Nile virus. The following birds tested positive for WNV in Sonoma County: *One (1) Rock Dove found in the vicinity of Valley House Drive in Rohnert Park was submitted on 10/15/08; One (1) American Crow found in the vicinity of Wild Oak Drive in Santa Rosa was submitted on 10/19/08; One pigeon found in the vicinity of Circadian Way in Santa Rosa was submitted on 10/21/08.*

Protect yourself and your family from mosquitoes by following these simple tips:

- Be aware that mosquitoes are most active between dusk and dawn.
- When engaging in outdoor activities, wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and apply insect repellent according to label instructions. Repellents containing the active ingredient DEET, Picaridin or oil of lemon are most effective.
- Screen all windows and make sure the screens are in good repair.
- Cover septic tanks and screen roof vent pipes.

2008 West Nile virus activity:

Sonoma County: 1 mosquito pool and 11 dead birds have tested positive for West Nile virus.

Marin County: 1 dead bird has tested positive for West Nile virus.

2007 West Nile virus activity:

Sonoma County: 2 equine cases, 1 human, 19 dead birds, 0 squirrels, 0 sentinel chickens and 1 mosquito pool tested positive for West Nile virus.

Marin County: 4 dead birds 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 include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, 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.

#####