

**County of Santa Clara  
Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of Environmental Health  
Vector Control District**

1580 Berger Dr. San José, CA 95112  
(408) 918-4770 [www.sccvector.org](http://www.sccvector.org)



## Media Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, August 11, 2020**

### **Positive Tests Confirm West Nile Virus Mosquitoes**

*Targeted treatment scheduled for August 13 in limited area in Los Altos Hills*

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.** – The County of Santa Clara Vector Control District has confirmed West Nile virus (WNV) positive tests in adult mosquitoes collected from portions of the 94022 ZIP code area that includes part of Los Altos Hills. As a result, a truck-mounted adult mosquito control treatment has been scheduled in the area to prevent human cases of WNV. Weather permitting, the ground operations are scheduled for approximately **10 p.m. on Thursday, August 13**, and will conclude a few hours later. The District is adhering to all recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department regarding the Novel Coronavirus (that causes COVID-19) and will be conducting the treatment in accordance to those guidelines.

Door hangers notifying the public of the scheduled mosquito treatment will be placed in neighborhoods beginning today, Tuesday, August 11. We will also notify the public in the treatment ZIP codes through AlertSCC and Nextdoor. General notice will also be provided on various social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter (@SCCVCD), and the SCCVector app.

Vector Control staff will be available to answer any questions from the public, Monday – Friday, at the dedicated phone number (408) 282-3114, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Questions can also be submitted by email to [vectorinfo@cep.sccgov.org](mailto:vectorinfo@cep.sccgov.org).

These are the specific details of the mosquito control treatment:

**Treatment date:** Thursday, August 13, around 10:00 p.m., for approximately three hours

**Supervisory District:** District 5

**City:** Los Altos Hills

**Centered at:** Purissima Road and Roble Ladera Road

**Bordered by:**

- **North** – Arastradero Road and Stirrup Way
- **East** – West Fremont Road
- **South** – Moody Road and South El Monte Road
- **West** – Page Mill Road and Altamont Road

**Treatment ZIP code:** Part of 94022

**Map at:** <https://arcg.is/1reCzm>

During the adult mosquito control treatment operations, there is no need to relocate. Those who wish to minimize exposure for family members or pets may close windows and remain inside during the

scheduled time period, which typically lasts three hours. Individuals who have chemical sensitivities may want to consult their physician. All control treatments utilized are approved by the Federal and State Environmental Protection Agencies and are widely used by Vector Control agencies throughout California.

### **Health Effects of West Nile Virus**

Since the arrival of West Nile virus to California in 2003, 7,024 people across the State have contracted the disease; 309 of those cases were fatal. In 2019, there were 6 human WNV related fatalities; 2015 was a record year for fatalities in the state with 53 deaths.

WNV infection does not cause symptoms in most people; however, for some individuals it can cause fever, headache, body aches and, in severe cases, significant neurological damage or death. Adults older than 50 years and individuals with certain chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer, and kidney disease are most at risk for serious complications.

The public can play an important role in preventing the spread of West Nile virus. The following are some key prevention measures.

#### On your property:

- DRAIN or DUMP standing water weekly. Mosquitoes lay eggs in stagnant water.
- Drain, remove or turn over anything that can hold water, such as flowerpots, planter bases, bird baths, toys, cans, rain gutters, pet dishes, buckets, and old tires. Fix leaky water faucets and sprinklers.
- Screens on doors and windows should be tight-fitting and in good condition.
- Do not let your swimming pool water fall below the pump circulation area. Free mosquitofish placement can be requested online at [SCCVector.org](http://SCCVector.org) for placement in neglected pools or ornamental ponds.

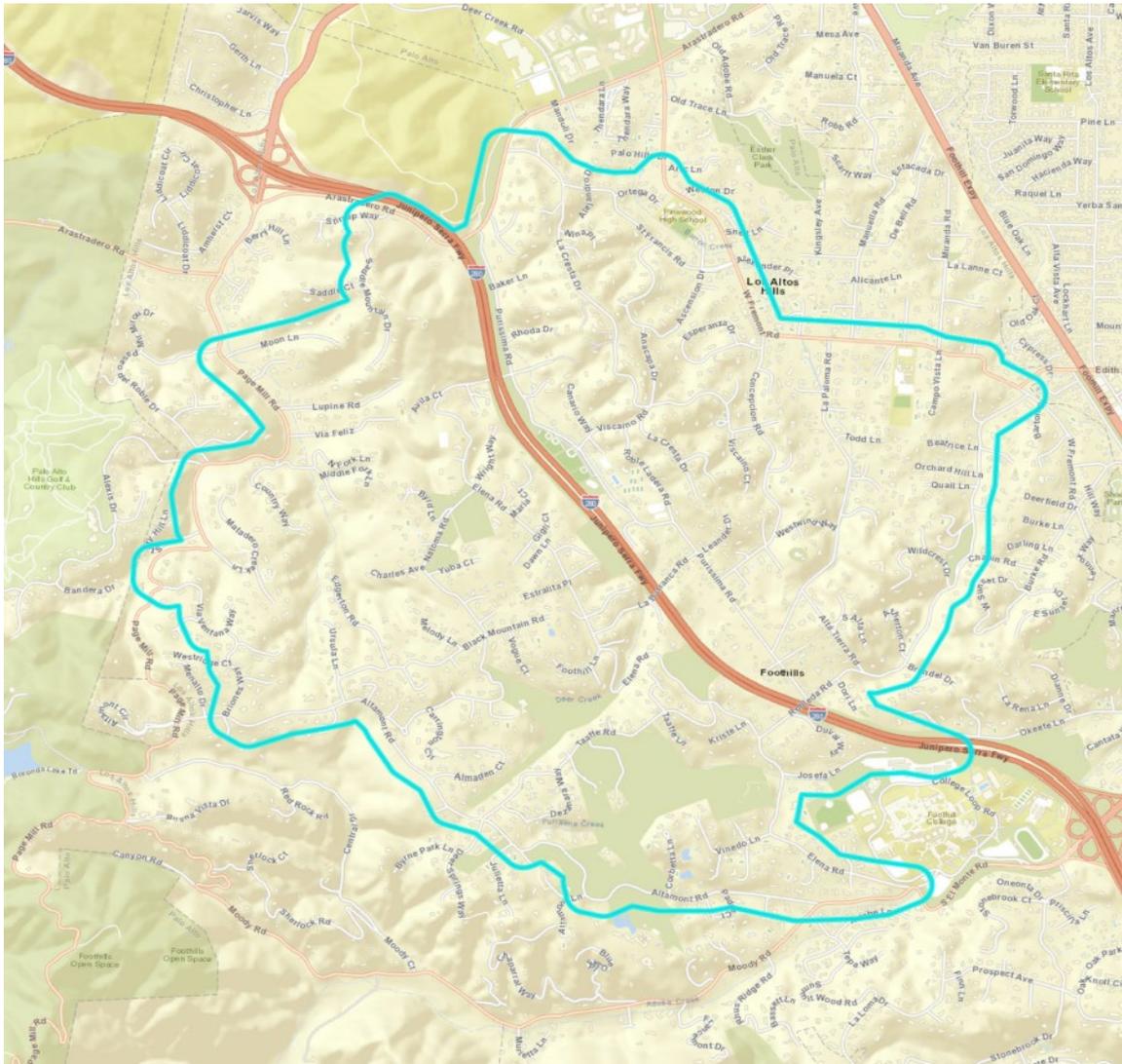
#### Outdoor Activities:

- Limit outdoor activities during DUSK and DAWN to prevent mosquito bites. Those are the times when the mosquitoes that transmit WNV are most active.
- If you need to go outside in an area where mosquitoes are active
  - Dress in long sleeve shirts and long pants, preferably in light colors.
  - Apply insect repellent approved by the Environmental Protection Agency, following label instructions.

Contact the County of Santa Clara Vector Control District if you are being bothered by mosquitoes or know of a potential mosquito-breeding source.

For free assistance with mosquito control, WNV, or other vectors, residents can contact the District office at **(408) 918-4770** or fill out a service request online at [SCCVector.org](http://SCCVector.org).

# ADULT MOSQUITO TREATMENT – August 13, 2020



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## **ABOUT THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA**

The County of Santa Clara government serves a diverse, multi-cultural population of 1.9 million residents in Santa Clara County, California, making it more populous than 14 states in the U.S. The County provides essential services to its residents, including public health protection, environmental stewardship, medical services through the County of Santa Clara Health System, child and adult protection services, homelessness prevention and solutions, roads, park services, libraries, emergency response to disasters, protection of minority communities and those under threat, access to a fair criminal justice system, and many other public benefits.

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