

County of Santa Clara  
Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of Environmental Health  
Vector Control District  
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(408) 918-4770 [www.sccvector.org](http://www.sccvector.org)



**For Immediate Release**  
**June 15, 2018**

**Positive Tests Confirm West Nile Virus Mosquitoes**  
*Targeted treatment operations scheduled for June 19 in limited area  
near the Sunnyvale & Santa Clara border*

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.** – The Santa Clara County Vector Control District (SCC VCD) has confirmed that adult mosquitoes collected from an area including portions of the 94085, 94086, 95051, and a small portion of 94087 ZIP code areas of the cities of Sunnyvale and Santa Clara have tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). The detection has prompted the scheduling of a truck-mounted adult mosquito control treatment in the area around the detection site, in an effort to prevent human cases of WNV. Weather permitting, the ground operations are scheduled for **11 p.m. on Tuesday, June 19**, and will conclude a few hours later.

Door hangers notifying the public of the scheduled mosquito treatment will be placed in neighborhoods beginning Friday, June 15. Notice is also being sent directly to the public in the treatment ZIP codes through AlertSCC, and to those who subscribe to Nextdoor neighborhood networks. General notice also is being provided on various social media platforms used by the Santa Clara County Vector Control District, including Yahoo Groups (SCCvector), Twitter (SCCvcd), and the SCCvector app.

Monday through Wednesday, June 18-20 Vector Control staff will be available to answer any questions from the public at a dedicated phone number (800-314-2427) from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Questions can also be submitted by email to [vectorinfo@deh.sccgov.org](mailto:vectorinfo@deh.sccgov.org).

The specific details of the operational areas are:

**Treatment date:** Tuesday June 19, from 11:00 p.m. to approximately 2:00 a.m. the following morning, Wednesday, June 20.

**Supervisorial District:** Portions of District 3 and 4

**Cities:** Sunnyvale and Santa Clara

**Centered at:** Reed Avenue and E. Evelyn Avenue.

**Bordered by:**

- **North** – E. California Ave., E. Arques Ave., Kifer Rd., and Mead Ave.
- **East** – Bowers Ave., Glade Dr., and Flora Vista Ave.
- **South** – El Camino Real.
- **West** – N. Fair Oaks Ave. and Central Ave.

**Treatment Zip codes:** Portions of 94085, 94086, 95051, 94087

**Map at:** <https://bit.ly/2LSp3RT>

During the adult mosquito control treatment operations, there is no need to relocate. However, those who wish to minimize exposure for family or pets may wish to 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 physicians. 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 WNV to California in 2003, 6,582 people across the State have contracted the disease; 292 of those cases were fatal. In 2017, there were 44 human West Nile Virus 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:

- Mosquitoes lay eggs in water. DRAIN or DUMP standing water weekly.
- Drain, remove or turn over anything that can hold water: 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 through the SCC VCD for neglected pools or ornamental ponds.

#### Outdoor Activities:

- Limit outdoor activities during DUSK & 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 following label instructions.

Contact the Santa Clara County 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 by calling **(408) 918-4770**, or fill out a service request online at [SCCvector.org](http://SCCvector.org).

