

## HOW CAN I PROTECT MY FAMILY FROM WNV?

Residents can do a variety of things to help reduce the risk from mosquitoes:

**Dump and drain standing water:** Eliminate standing water around the home or office at least once a week. Drill a hole or puncture containers to eliminate the possibility of standing water.

**Install or repair screens:** Keep mosquitoes out with tight-fitting screens on all windows and doors.

**Reduce outdoor activity:** Avoid outdoor activities between dusk and dawn during mosquito season (May to October).

**Dress properly:** Wear loose-fitting long pants and long sleeve shirts when outdoors and opt for light colored clothing.

**Wear a repellent:** Use approved mosquito repellents containing DEET®, Picaridin, IR 3535, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Follow the manufacturer's directions for use.

Contact OCMVCD to report mosquitoes or request mosquito fish, neglected swimming pools, or standing water.

## DEAD BIRD SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

If you discover a bird that has recently died, call the **Dead Bird Hotline at: (714) 971-2421 ext. 117** to inquire about WNV testing. Not all birds will qualify for testing.

If you find a dead bird, and it appears to have died within the last 24 hours, carefully, and without touching the bird, place the carcass in a plastic bag and put it in a cool or shady place.

For more information, visit: [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov).

## COMMON RESIDENTIAL MOSQUITO BREEDING SOURCES



Mosquitoes can develop from egg to adult in 5-7 days depending on temperature

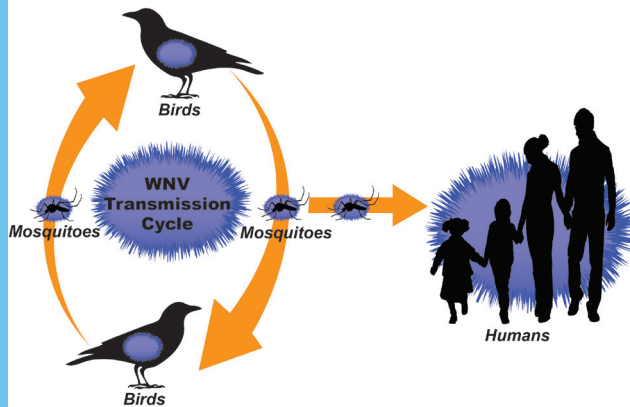
- A)** Out-of-service swimming pools, plastic kiddie pools, and spas can breed thousands of mosquitoes.
- B)** Any items that hold water can breed mosquitoes. Shown above: horse trough, open boat, outdoor faucet, old tire, wagon, wheelbarrow, grill and tarp.
- C)** House rain gutters often get clogged with leaves. This decaying vegetation will feed developing mosquito larvae.
- D)** Neglected or non-circulating ponds are ideal for mosquito production. Change the water in bird baths weekly.
- E)** The overflow saucer under flower pots can hold enough water to support mosquitoes.

## WHAT IS WNV?

Since 1999, West Nile Virus (WNV) has spread across the United States. By 2004, evidence of transmission was detected in birds in Orange County. There have been hundreds of reported West Nile virus cases; many of which resulted in fatalities.

A mosquito acquires the virus by biting an infected bird. The virus then multiplies in the mosquito. It is transmitted to a new host when it bites a person or animal.

## TRANSMISSION CYCLE OF WEST NILE VIRUS



West Nile virus is primarily found in birds, and is transmitted between birds and to people by mosquito bites.

## WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

### Symptoms of WNV fever include:

Fever, headache, body aches, nausea, skin rash on the torso and swollen lymph nodes.

### Symptoms of severe WNV illness include:

Encephalitis, high fever, headache, neck stiffness, disorientation, coma, tremors and paralysis.

## WHAT IS OCMVCD DOING TO PREVENT WNV TRANSMISSION?

West Nile virus is endemic to California and Orange County. Reducing the mosquito population may decrease the chances of WNV transmission.

OCMVCD does the following to protect Orange County residents:

- Educate the public about the shared responsibility of mosquito and vector control.
- Conduct surveillance to identify vector-borne diseases.
- Identify and eliminate mosquito breeding sources.
- Control for mosquitoes in common or public areas.
- Provide mosquito fish for ponds and swimming pools.



## MISSION

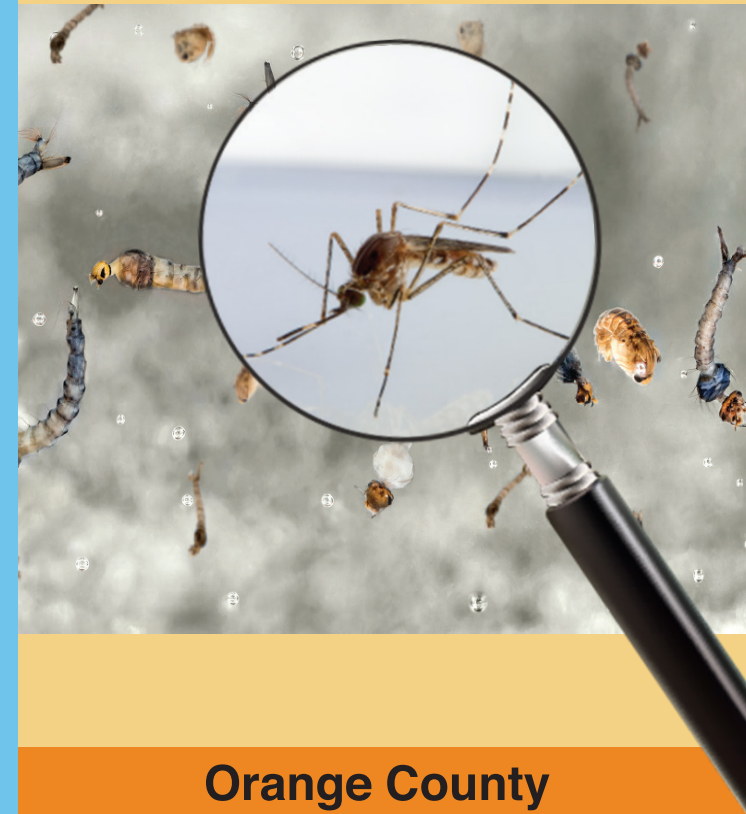
It is the mission of the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District (OCMVCD) to protect the people of Orange County from the dangers of vector-borne diseases. A major component of our program is to educate the public about the shared responsibility of vector control. OCMVCD staff work year-round to ensure protection for you and your community from mosquitoes and the diseases they carry.

## For more information: Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

13001 Garden Grove Blvd.  
Garden Grove, CA 92843  
714.971.2421  
[www.ocvector.org](http://www.ocvector.org)

# WEST NILE VIRUS ALERT!

## PROTECT YOURSELF & YOUR COMMUNITY



## Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

