

Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

For Immediate Release

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OCMVCD: As People Spend More Time Outdoors and Increase Travel, Mosquito Experts Encourage Residents to Protect Themselves from Mosquito-Borne Diseases

Garden Grove, CA. The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District is participating in California Mosquito Awareness Week April 18-24th. As stay-at-home orders are loosened or lifted, mosquito experts encourage residents to protect themselves against mosquito bites and the spread of mosquito-transmitted viruses.

The OCMVCD joins public health officials and cities across the state to promote California Mosquito Awareness Week. As part of the state's Mosquito Week activities, the District will launch the following:

- The District will release a series of educational public service announcements on how residents can take an active role in mosquito control.
- The District's social media pages will highlight mosquito prevention videos, trivia, and challenges to encourage residents to Tip, Toss, and Take Action.
- The District's social media pages will be participating in fun giveaways with residents.
- OCMVCD is teaming up with local agencies to help encourage shared responsibility and resident action to prevent mosquitoes.

"California Mosquito Awareness Week is an opportunity for the community to increase awareness. We all need to take charge of our yards and environments to help prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases," said District Manager Rick Howard.

To help prevent mosquito bites:

- Apply insect repellent containing EPA-registered active ingredients, including DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535, to clothes and exposed skin according to label instructions.
- Dress in long sleeves and pants, especially if outside at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes that can spread West Nile virus are most active.
- Install screens on windows and doors and keep them in good repair to keep mosquitoes out of your home.

- Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property, including flowerpots, old tires, buckets, pet dishes, and trash cans. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in very small amounts of standing water.
- Repair leaking faucets and broken sprinklers that can contribute to standing water around your home.
- Clean rain gutters clogged with leaves.

For more information: <https://www.ocvector.org/california-mosquito-awareness-week>



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