

Santa Clara County Vector Control District

Operations and Surveillance Report

May 2018



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District Mission

To detect and minimize vector-borne diseases, to abate mosquitoes, and to assist the public in resolving problems with rodents, wildlife and insects that can cause disease, discomfort or injury in humans.

Services Provided

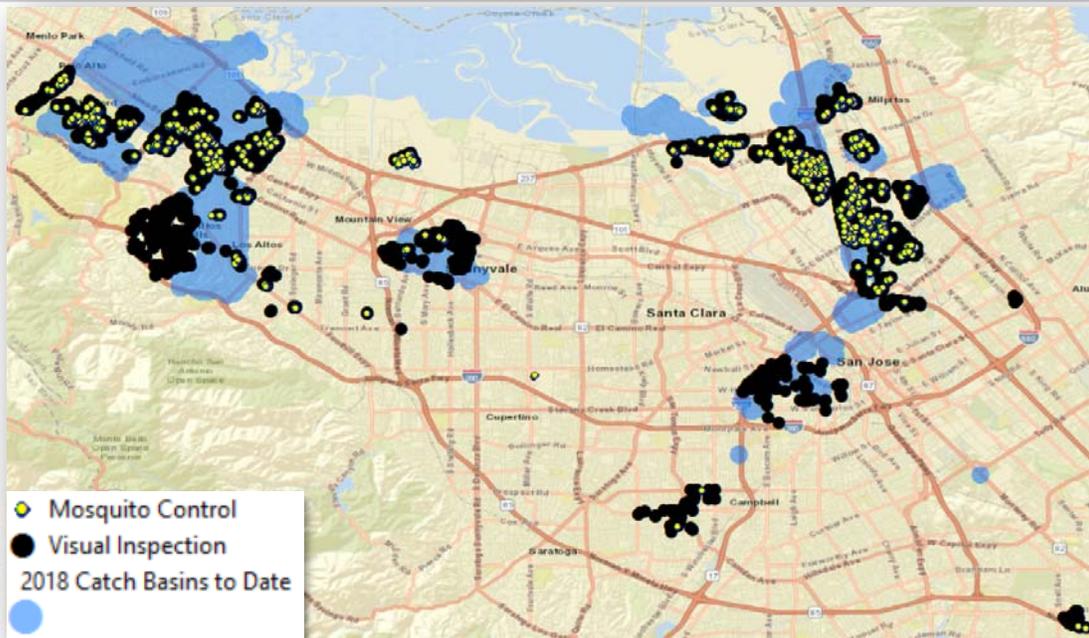
- Detection of the presence/prevalence of vector borne diseases, such as Plague, West Nile Virus, rabies, & Lyme disease, through ongoing surveillance and testing
- Routine inspections, and treatment as necessary, of known mosquito and rodent sources
- Response to customer initiated service requests for identification, advise, and/or control measures for mosquitoes, rodents, wildlife, and miscellaneous invertebrates (ticks, yellow jackets, cockroaches, bees, fleas, flies, etc.)
- Free educational presentations for schools, homeowners associations, private businesses, civic groups and other interested groups
- Free informational material on all vectors and vector borne diseases

Manager's Message

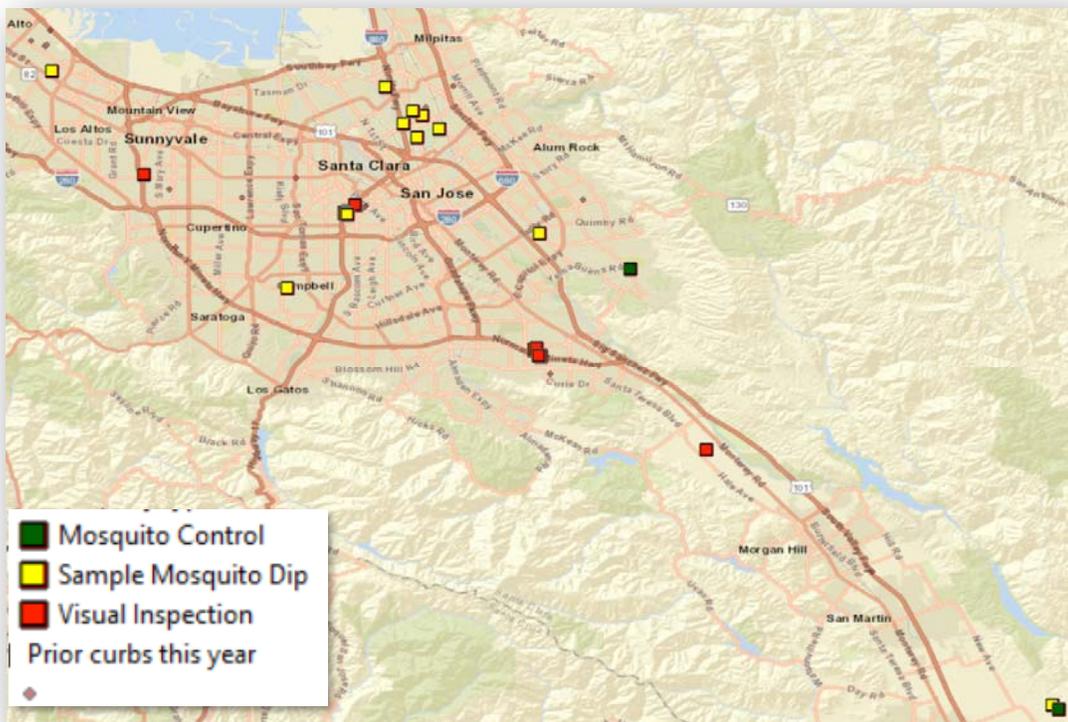
Reminder of how to keep your family safe:

Drain any standing water that may produce mosquitoes
 Dawn and Dusk are most mosquitoes active
 Dress long sleeves and pants when working outdoors
 Defend using an effective insect repellent
 Door & window screens should be in good conditions
 District staff are available to inspect any mosquitoes problem
 Please call us (408) 918-4770

Operations Report: Curbs and Catchbasins

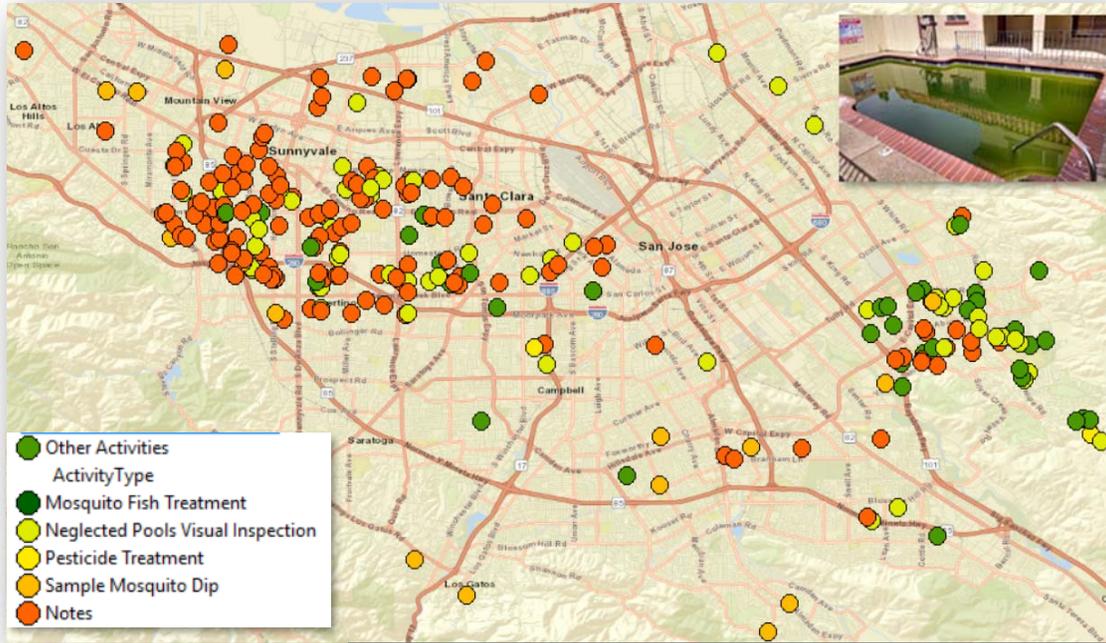


The District employs seasonal staff to check and treat mosquitoes in flooded street stormwater catchbasins. These sites hold standing water due to rainfall or urban runoff from domestic water usage. During May 2018, there were 858 catch basins treated out of 6,086 basins inspected.



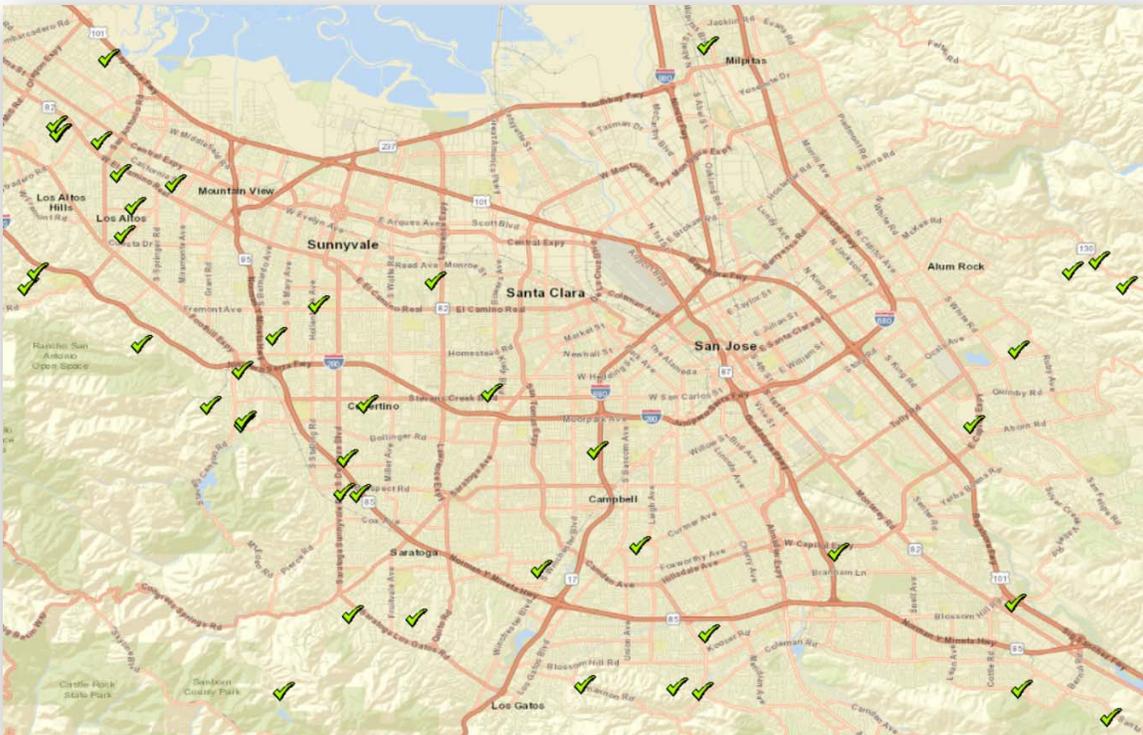
The District also employs seasonal staff to check and treat mosquitoes in flooded curbs. These sites hold standing water because of obstructions or depressions in the curbs. Curbing operations were performed at 31 locations during May.

Operations Report: Neglected Pools



Stagnant water in neglected swimming pools can produce hundreds of mosquitoes and cause a local nuisance to neighborhoods. The District inspected 265 pool locations during May: 51 (19%) required mosquito control.

Operations Report: Mosquitofish Service Requests



*The mosquitofish is a topminnow (*Gambusia affinis*) that is a natural predator of larval and pupal stage mosquitoes. District staff deliver fish for stocking backyard sites like fountains, ponds, and rain barrels. A total of 838 fish were delivered to 84 properties during May.*

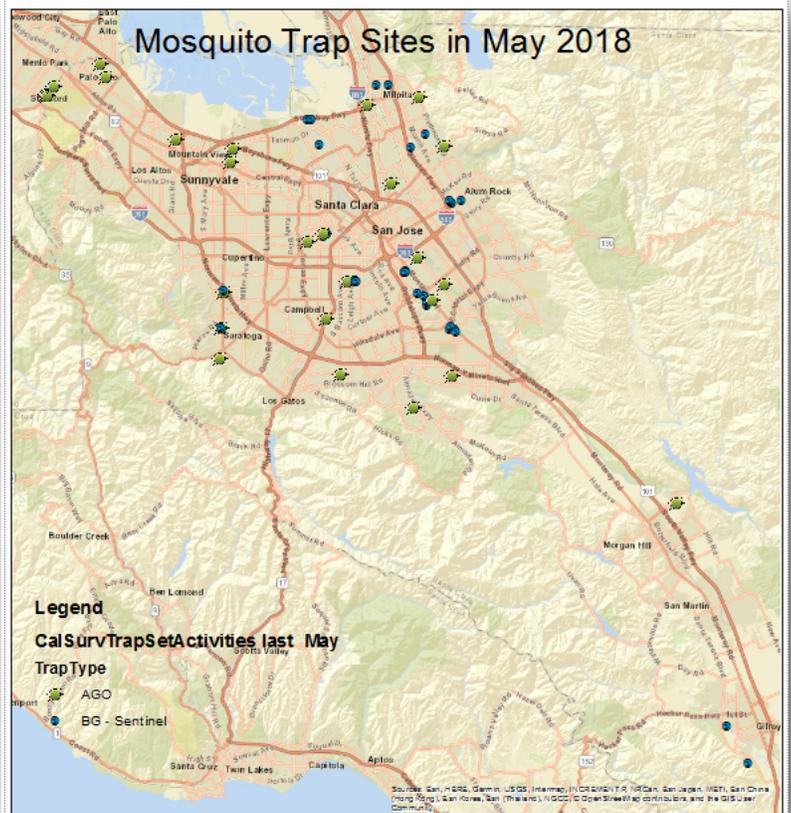
Sticky Underground Light Traps deployed in Cupertino

In collaboration with the city of Cupertino, Public Works, the District placed SULT traps in underground stormwater sites including, bubblebasins, outfalls, catchbasins and under stormwater manhole lids. Each trap uses a “super-bright LED” that lasts over a month. Plans were made to retrieve them in mid-

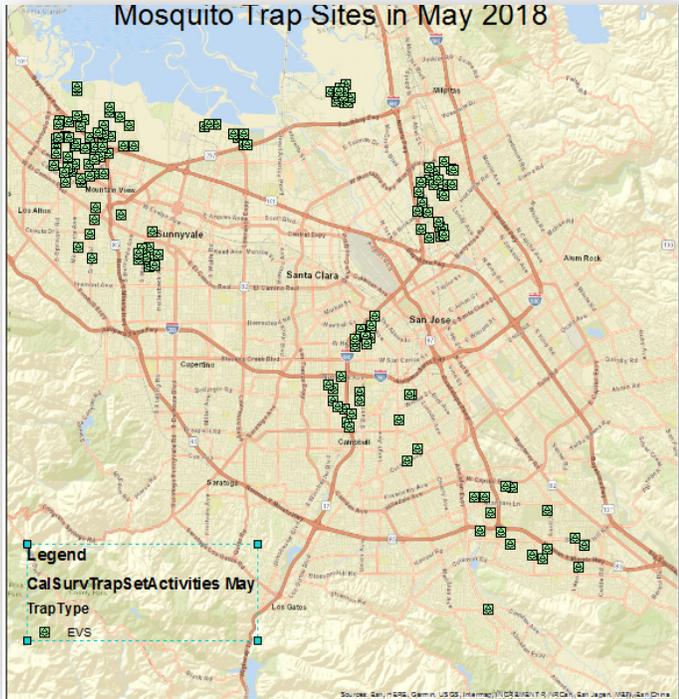


Invasive Aedes Surveillance

Count by Trap Type	Total	Positive Detections
AGO	29	0
BG - Sentinel	37	0
Grand Total	66	0



Carbon dioxide-baited Traps



Sampling for arthropod-borne virus (Arbovirus) via dead birds is continuous throughout the year, but mosquito trapping is primarily from April through October when mosquitoes are more active. Trapping for mosquitoes targeted Palo

Sum of females - mixed	
species	Total
<i>Aedes dorsalis</i>	11
<i>Aedes sierrensis</i>	1
<i>Aedes squamiger</i>	21
<i>Aedes washinoi</i>	2
<i>Culex pipiens</i>	292
<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	57
<i>Culiseta incidens</i>	74
<i>Culiseta inornata</i>	3
Grand Total	461

West Nile Virus Update

Species	Negative	Positive	Total
American Crow	31	4	35
California Scrub-Jay	1		1
Cooper's Hawk	1		1
Dark-eyed Junco	1		1
Finch	1		1
Goldfinch	1		1
Great Horned Owl	1		1
Hawk	1		1
House Finch	1		1
House Sparrow	2		2
Lesser Goldfinch	1		1
Northern Mockingbird	1		1
Say's Phoebe	1		1
Sparrow	4		4
Swainson's Thrush	1		1
Unknown	1		1
Unknown - songbird	4		4
Woodpecker	1		1
Grand Total	55	4	59

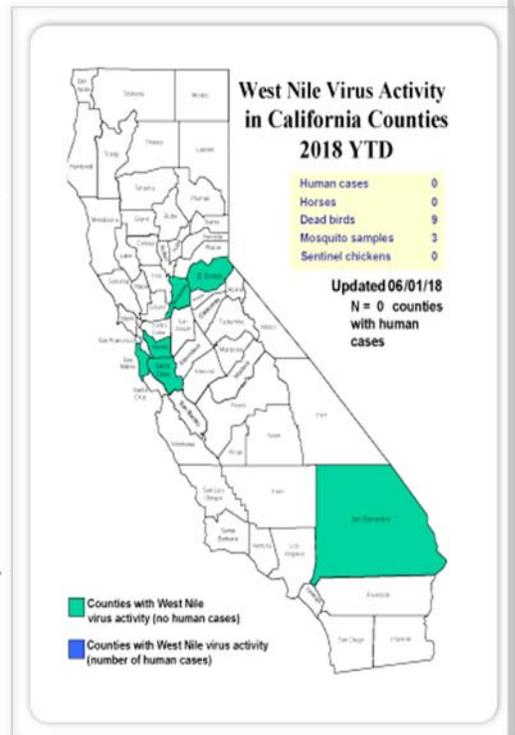
Statewide:

As of June 1st 2018, 9 dead birds have tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) in California (see map at right). At this time last year, 11 positive birds had been reported in six counties..

Thus far in 2018, three positive mosquito samples were reported to the state. To date, no human cases have been reported this year.

Santa Clara County:

As of April 27, 2018, 188 dead birds have been reported in Santa Clara County. Of these reported birds, 59 have been tested for WNV and 5 were found positive. The Sentinel Chickens Program has not had any positive detections to date.



Public Service Requests

Count of ItemID	
Issue	Total
Bats	3
Bed Bug	8
Bees	7
Cockroaches	6
Coyote	15
Fogging Questions	1
Gambusia (Mosquito Fish)	81
General Vector Control	1
Information Request	1
Midges/Gnats	6
Mosquitoes	35
Neglected Pool	30
Opossum	25
Other (see description)	18
Other Invertebrate	4
Other Vertebrate	8
Raccoons	11
Rodents	71
Skunk	15
Snake	8
Squirrels	3
Wasps/Yellowjackets	4
Grand Total	361

During May there were 361 calls for service among a wide range of issues including rodents, mosquitoes, requests for mosquitofish, stinging insects (bees and yellowjackets) and wildlife. Services provided include home inspections for rodents or wildlife and phone consultations. Calls regarding mosquitofish and rodents were highest in frequency.

Insect Identification	17
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Seventeen arthropods were submitted by residents for identification during May including: ticks, mites, aphids, springtails, lacebugs and drugstore beetles.

2018 Public Education Highlights

- ◆ 13 Elementary/Mid school presentation
- ◆ Four wellness Fairs
- ◆ VTA Bus Ads
- ◆ Earthquake Ads
- ◆ Movie Theater Ads
- ◆ DMV Ads
- ◆ Caltrain Ads
- ◆ Public Presentation
- ◆ Open House
- ◆ Media release



Press release:

County of Santa Clara Prepares for Warm Weather and the Associated Increase in Mosquito and Tick Populations

The District requests the public eliminate all sources of standing water to discourage mosquito breeding and prevent the spread of West Nile Virus.

Rabies-Positive Bats:

Last weekend, San Jose Animal Services brought four bats to the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley and none of them survived. Three of the four tested positive for rabies. Two Mexican free-tailed bats were from Minnis Circle in Milpitas, and the other Hoary bat was from University Avenue in Los Gatos.



New Staff in VCD:

Hector Cardenas joins the Vector Control District (VCD) as the new Vector Control Operations Supervisor. Hector comes to us from San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District where he has been employed since May 2008 as a Seasonal Aide and then promoted to a Vector Control Technician in December 2012. As a Vector Control Technician, Hector collaborated with multiple local, state and federal agencies in an effort to eradicate invasive Spartina from the San Francisco Bay. He has trained and lead numerous seasonal aides and assisted with public relations and community education programs. Aside from the 10 years of technical experience, Hector has earned an Associate's Degree in Business Management from Chabot College. He is also trained and certified in Mosquitofish biology.

Ruben Chavez is the new VCD Medical Laboratory Assistant I. Ruben has been with Vector Control since October 2017 as an Office Specialist III at the front desk. His job duties as an Office Specialist III has continue to grow from answering phones and creating service requests to ordering supplies in Ariba all while welcoming the added duties. He started his new role for VC starting May 9, 2018 and he is already certified the core portion, mosquitoes and invertebrate biology/control of technician license certification.



Santa Clara County
Vector Control
District
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San José, CA, 95112
408-918-4770

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"A VECTOR is any animal that can transmit disease to animals or people."