PANTRY PESTS

Don’t let Indianmeal moths invade your home!

Store-product pests are usually brought into the home through an infested package of food. Look for signs of infestation in your home, such as:

- Small moths flying around
- Webbing in tight places
- Tiny holes in packages

For more information on detection and management of Indianmeal moths and other household pests, visit SCCVector.org.
Mosquitoes are usually associated with hot weather, spring, and summer, however, some mosquito species are active during winter. Continue to dump and drain standing water around your home at least once a week, especially during rainy days.

The County of Santa Clara Vector Control District’s work is heavily focused on monitoring animals and insects that can transmit diseases to humans, like mosquitoes, ticks, and bats. However the work is not limited to only that.

Do you need help trapping insects in your home for identification? We provide free sticky traps. Need help identifying insects? Contact us and we will help you identify the specimen. Have a moth infestation in your home? Learn to look for signs of an infestation and how to control it.

For more information on other pests and our programs, please visit SCCVector.org.

Sincerely,

Nayer Zahiri
County of Santa Clara Vector Control District Manager
SERVICES AVAILABLE

The County of Santa Clara Vector Control District is committed to protecting the public from vectors capable of transmitting diseases or creating a nuisance.

The services listed below are available for free to the public in Santa Clara County

- Advice, and/or control measures for mosquitoes.
- Phone consultations and advice for rodent infestations and/or wildlife activity.
- Insect identification and confirmation letter. Please mail specimens or email photos during Shelter-in-Place order.
- Phone consultations for bed bug abatement.
- Yellowjacket and wasp control/nest removal in public areas.
- Dead bird pickup and testing for West Nile virus.
- Mosquitofish to control mosquito populations are available for front door delivery during Shelter-in-Place order.
- Due to the Shelter-in-place order, school and community presentations, educational booths, and hands on activities are on hold until further notice.

A VECTOR is any animal or insect that can transmit diseases to animals or people.
OPERATIONS DATA

MOSQUITO CONTROL

The District's staff checks and treats mosquito larvae in flooded street stormwater catch basins, curbs, naturally breeding sources, and ponds. These sites can hold standing water due to rainfall or urban runoff from domestic water usage.

Stagnant water in these areas, and in neglected swimming pools, can breed mosquitoes that can carry dangerous human diseases like West Nile virus.

The County of Santa Clara Vector Control District actively monitors such locations to prevent these local nuisances from emerging and potentially spreading diseases.

Map 1. In September, staff inspected 2,372 catch basins and treated 178 that were found to contain mosquito larvae.
OPERATIONS DATA

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Map 2. In September, 23 curb inspections were conducted and 6 were treated to control mosquito breeding.

Map 4. Inspected 298 different locations including man-made habitats such as ponds, creeks, and marshes, treating 111 that were breeding mosquitoes.
MOSQUITO CONTROL

Mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) are small fish in the guppy family that are natural predators of mosquito larvae and pupae, making them an environmentally friendly alternative to mosquito control without the use of chemical insecticides. This method is referred to as biological control and is part of our integrated pest management program (IPM).

For more information on our mosquitofish program and mosquitofish availability, visit [SCCVector.org/mosquitofish](http://SCCVector.org/mosquitofish)

Map 5. Stocked 274 mosquitofish in a total of 22 locations during September.
Diseases such as West Nile virus (WNV) are maintained through the transmission cycle between mosquitoes and birds. Certain birds are more susceptible to disease such as crows and jays.

During September, 31 dead birds were reported and 7 were submitted for testing. Six of the birds tested negative, and only one tested positive. The dead birds were reported from Morgan Hill (1), San Jose (2), Sunnyvale (1), Santa Clara (1), Saratoga (1), and Los Altos (1).

Reporting dead birds is one way you can help detect the presence of WNV in your community.
Mosquito trapping is an essential piece to the County of Santa Clara’s Vector Control District, and is used to monitor disease like West Nile virus throughout the county. Mosquito abundance information is used to assist technicians in discovering mosquito breeding issues. Currently two methods to trap mosquitoes are being used by the District, which include the use of carbon dioxide (CO2) and gravid (GRVD) traps.

As stated in the name, the CO2 traps emits carbon dioxide to attract mosquitoes, whereas the GRVD traps holds standing water with a mosquito attractant and is intended to attract pregnant mosquitoes. During September, a total of 983 mosquitoes were caught using CO2 traps and 877 using the GRVD traps. Species caught include the common house mosquito (*Culex pipiens*), Western encephalitis mosquito (*Culex tarsalis*), cool weather mosquito (*Culiseta incidens*), the banded foul water mosquito (*Culex stigmatosoma*), and the Western tree hole mosquito (*Aedes sierrensis*).
Mosquitoes are identified by genus and species, and represented by each physiological state (unfed females, gravid females, blood-fed females, and males). During September, 1,030 unfed females were collected along with 716 gravid females, 24 blood-fed females, and 90 males.
MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

ADULT MOSQUITO TRAPPING

September trapping results yielded 1,860 mosquitoes, with the highest numbers being for the Common house mosquito (*Culex pipiens*), Western encephalitis mosquito (*Culex tarsalis*), and the cool weather mosquito (*Culiseta incidens*). The common house mosquito is one of the most common mosquitoes to Northern California and can be found in both urban and suburban regions with temperate and tropical weather.
JULY SERVICE REQUESTS

The District received 281 service requests in September. The highest service requests received continue to be for rodents (87), along with raccoons (35), and mosquitofish (26). With colder weather approaching, the trend for rodents and wildlife requests are expected to decrease.
To detect and minimize vector-borne diseases, to abate mosquitoes, and to assist the public in resolving problems that can cause disease, discomfort, or injury to humans in Santa Clara County.

www.sccvector.org

@sccvcd