

VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA



Operations and Surveillance Report

SEPTEMBER 2019

IN THIS ISSUE

MANAGER'S
MESSAGE 2

SERVICES
AVAILABLE 3

OPERATIONS
REPORT 4 - 6

WEST NILE
SURVEILLANCE 7 - 8

PUBLIC SERVICE
REQUESTS 9

OUTREACH
PROGRAM 10

NEW LOOK, SAME DISTRICT

Vector Control District launches new logo.

From wildlife and rodent exclusion, to disease surveillance and mosquito abatement, the Vector Control District is here to serve and protect the community from vectors and diseases.

For more information about our services, visit SCCVector.org or call 408-918-4770.



new look.
same
district.

VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER



Nayer Zahiri
County of Santa Clara
Vector Control District Manager

West Nile virus (WNV) season is ending, however, the District will continue to pick up and test dead birds. We ask the public to continue submitting dead bird sightings by filling out a service request at SCCVector.org or by calling the District office at 408-918-4770.

On the East Coast and upper Midwest, Eastern equine encephalitis had high activity. Eastern equine encephalitis, also known as the Triple E virus, is a zoonotic virus (infectious diseases that spread between animals and people) that has currently been of major concern in the East coast. Due to the virus carrying mosquito not being present in California, the state is not testing mosquitoes for Triple E.

Mosquitoes that are checked in California, include the house mosquito and the Western Encephalitis mosquito (*Culex pipiens* and *Culex tarsalis*), which are tested at the University of California Davis Arbovirus Research and Training (DART), or at a local agency. These mosquitoes are screened for WNV, Western equine encephalitis, and Saint Louis encephalitis, which are the prominent diseases currently present in the state. The yellow fever mosquito is also tested at DART for chikungunya, dengue, and Zika.

If you are planning to travel to the East coast or elsewhere, visit cdc.gov for tips on how to prevent mosquito bites.

Sincerely,

Nayer Zahiri



SERVICES AVAILABLE

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

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

- Home inspections and advice for rodents infestations and/or wildlife activity.
- Insect identification and confirmation letter.
- Consultations for bed bug abatement.
- Advice, and/or control measures for mosquitoes, rodents, wildlife, and miscellaneous invertebrates (ticks, cockroaches, bees, fleas, flies, and others).
- Yellowjacket and wasp control/nest removal in public areas.
- Dead bird pickup and testing for West Nile virus.
- Delivery of mosquitofish to control mosquito populations.
- K-12 educational presentations and hands-on activities tailored for individual classroom settings or school assemblies.
- Educational presentations for homeowner associations, organizations, businesses, civic groups, and other interested parties.
- Educational booths for community, corporate, or school events.
- Informational material on all vectors and vector-borne diseases.



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

OPERATIONS REPORT DATA

SEPTEMBER UPDATES

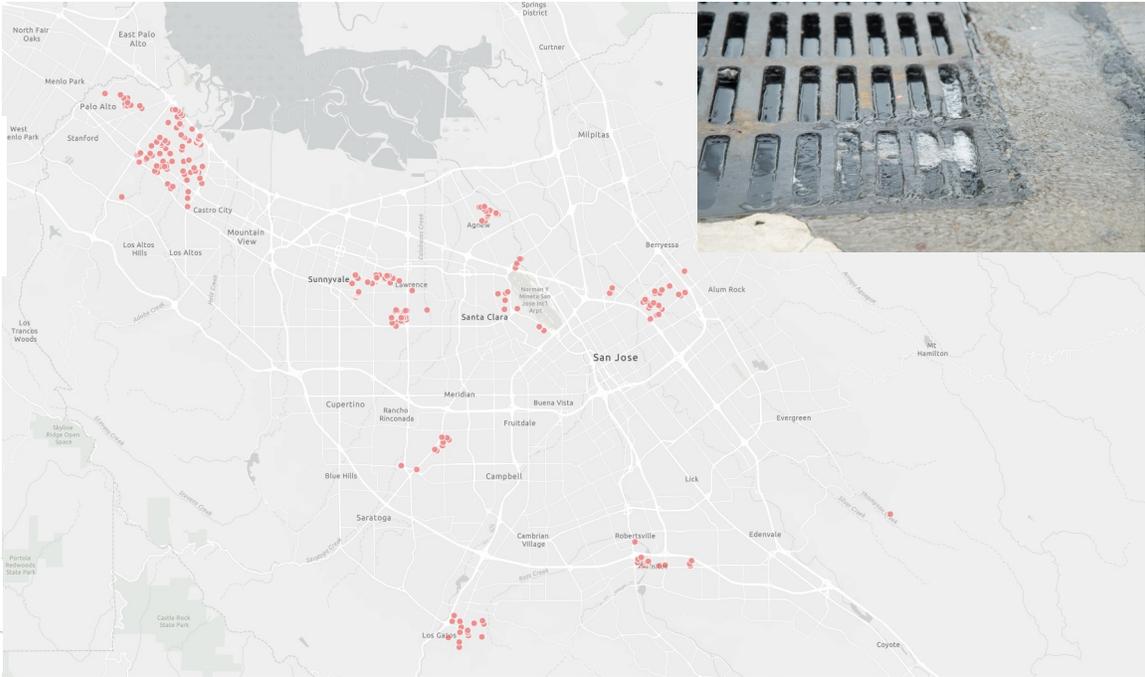


The District employs seasonal staff to check and treat mosquito larvae in flooded street stormwater catch basins, curbs, naturally breeding sources, and ponds.

These sites 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.

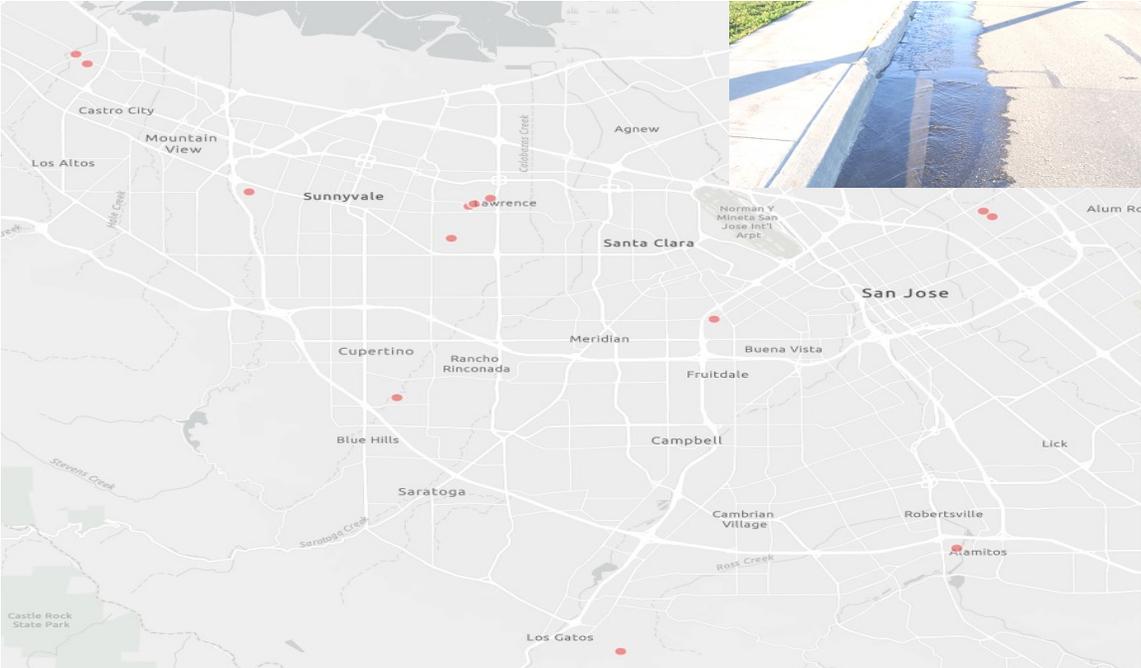
The County of Santa Clara Vector Control District actively monitors such locations to prevent these local nuisances from emerging and potentially spreading diseases.



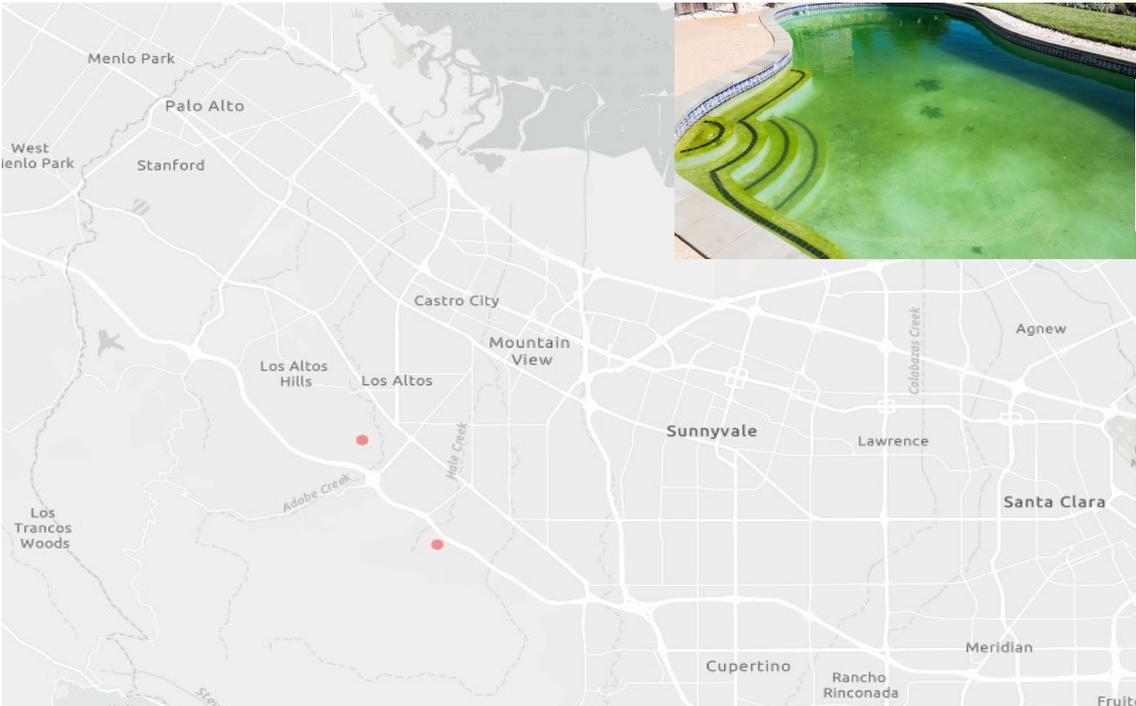
Map 1. Staff inspected 5,623 catch basins and treated 298 that were found to contain mosquito larvae.



OPERATIONS REPORT DATA



Map 2. 14 of 31 inspected curbs were treated to control mosquito breeding.

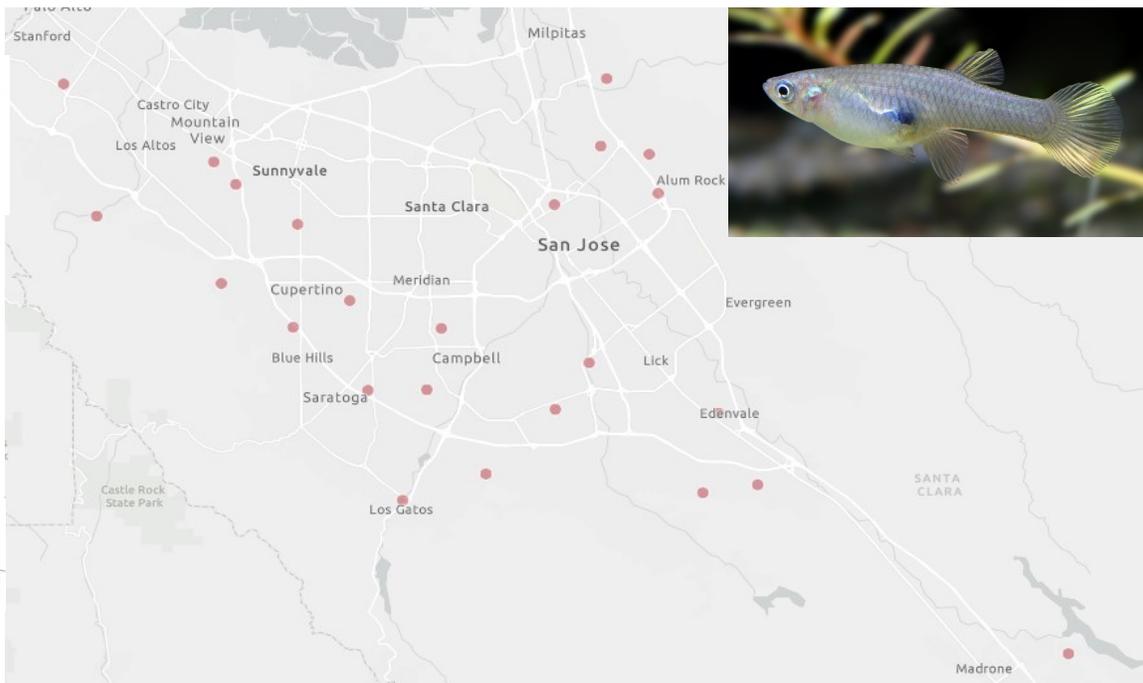


Map 3. Inspected 29 reported neglected pools and treated 2 that were found to be breeding mosquitoes.

OPERATIONS REPORT DATA



Map 4. Inspected 340 different locations, including man-made habitats such as ponds, creeks, and marshes, treating 73 that were breeding mosquitoes.



Map 5. Delivered a total of 115 mosquitofish during 25 service requests.

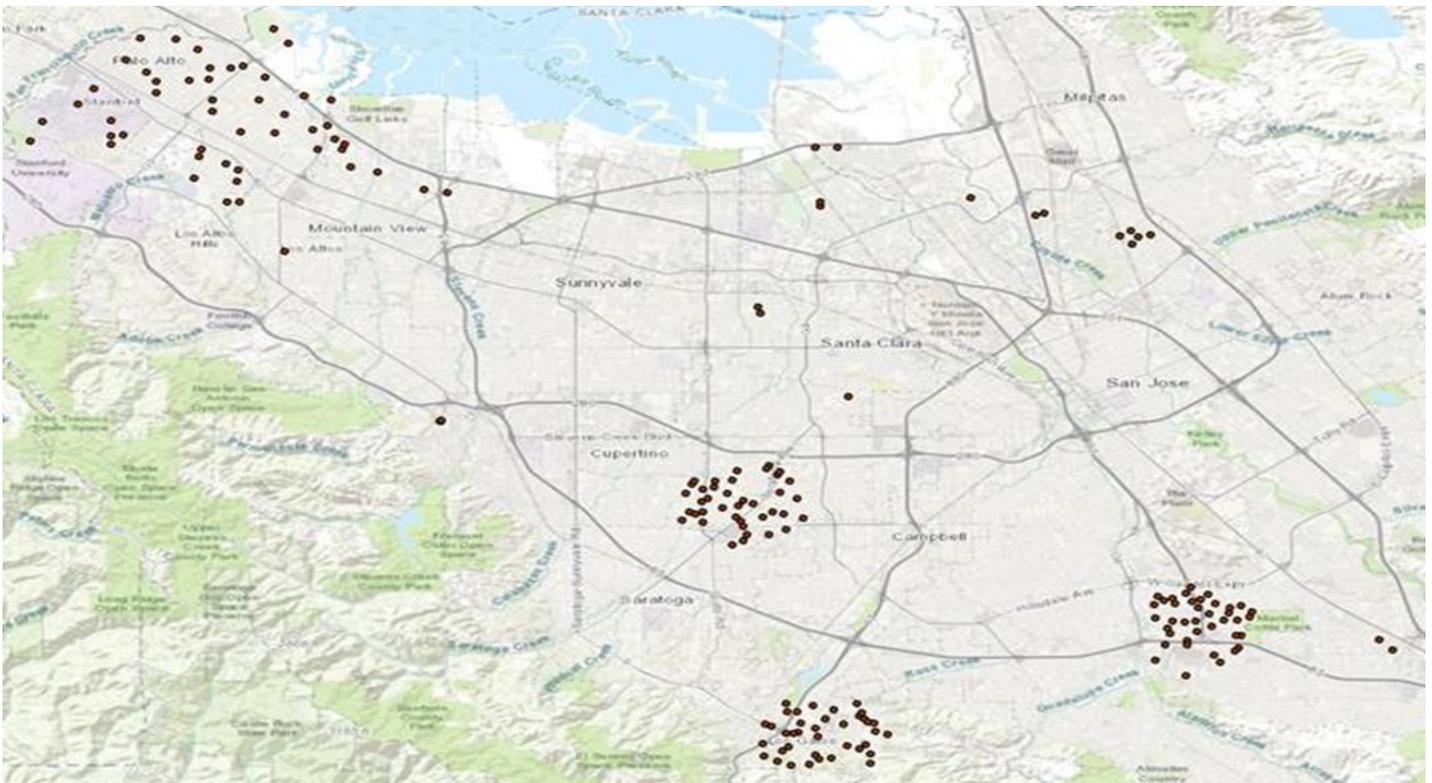
WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE

STATE WIDE

As of September, there were a total of 33 counties with West Nile virus (WNV) activity in 2019. Of the 33 counties, 17 had a total of 112 human cases combined, including San Diego, Riverside, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Solano, and other counties. The remaining 16 counties have WNV activity but no human cases, including Ventura, Kings, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Placer, Shasta, Santa Clara County, and others.

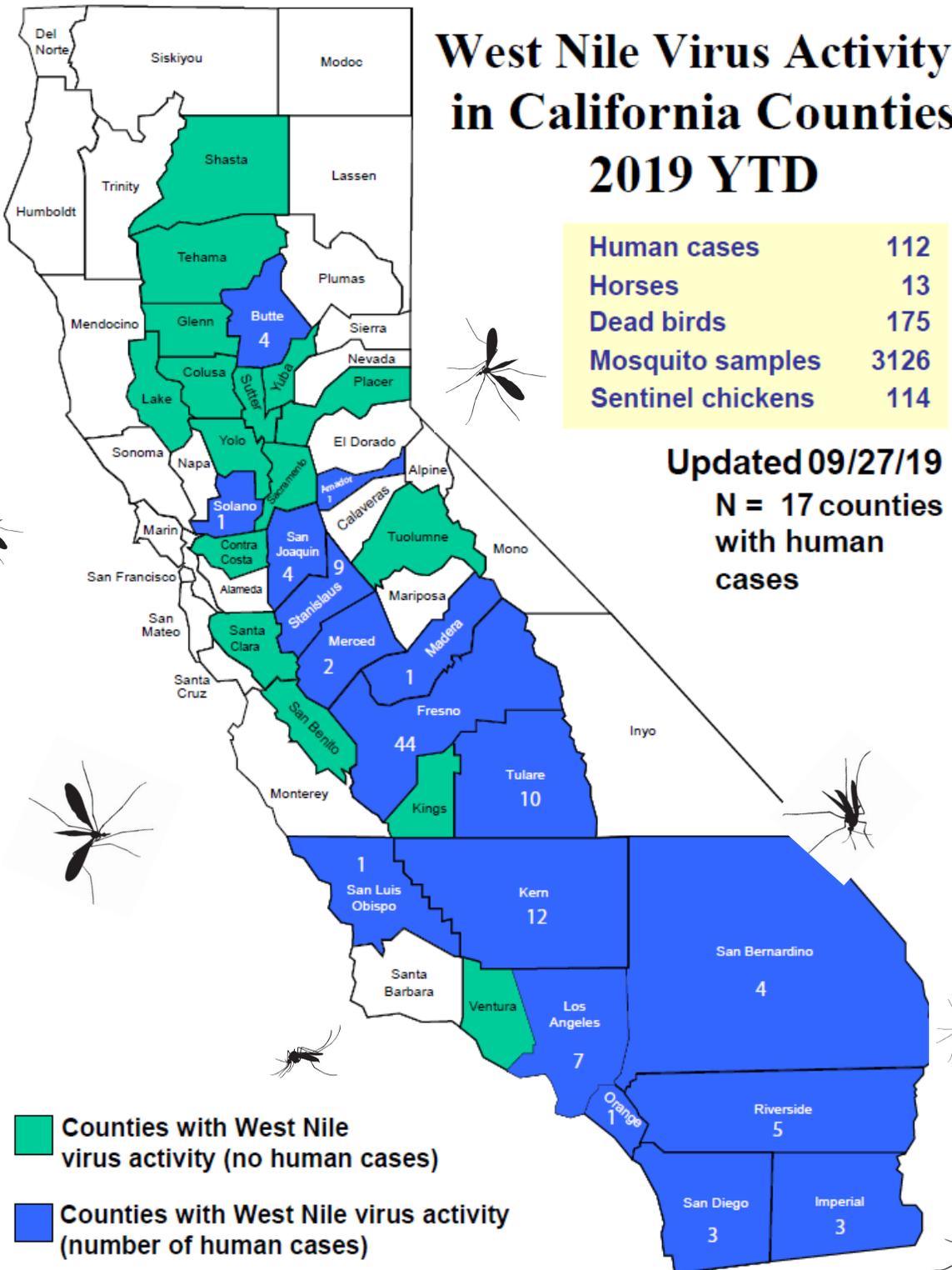
SANTA CLARA COUNTY

In September, a total of 12 dead birds were collected in the County and all birds were tested for West Nile virus. Of the 12 birds, 7 were negative for WNV which included three American crows, one common raven, one fox sparrow, one goldfinch, and one song bird. The remaining five birds tested positive for WNV, which included four American crows and one Steller's jay. Mosquito traps were placed in the surrounding area of the locations of the positive birds, however, all mosquitoes trapped tested negative for WNV.



Mosquito trapping locations included areas with high mosquito activity and locations of positive dead birds.

WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE IN CALIFORNIA COUNTIES



PUBLIC SERVICE REQUESTS

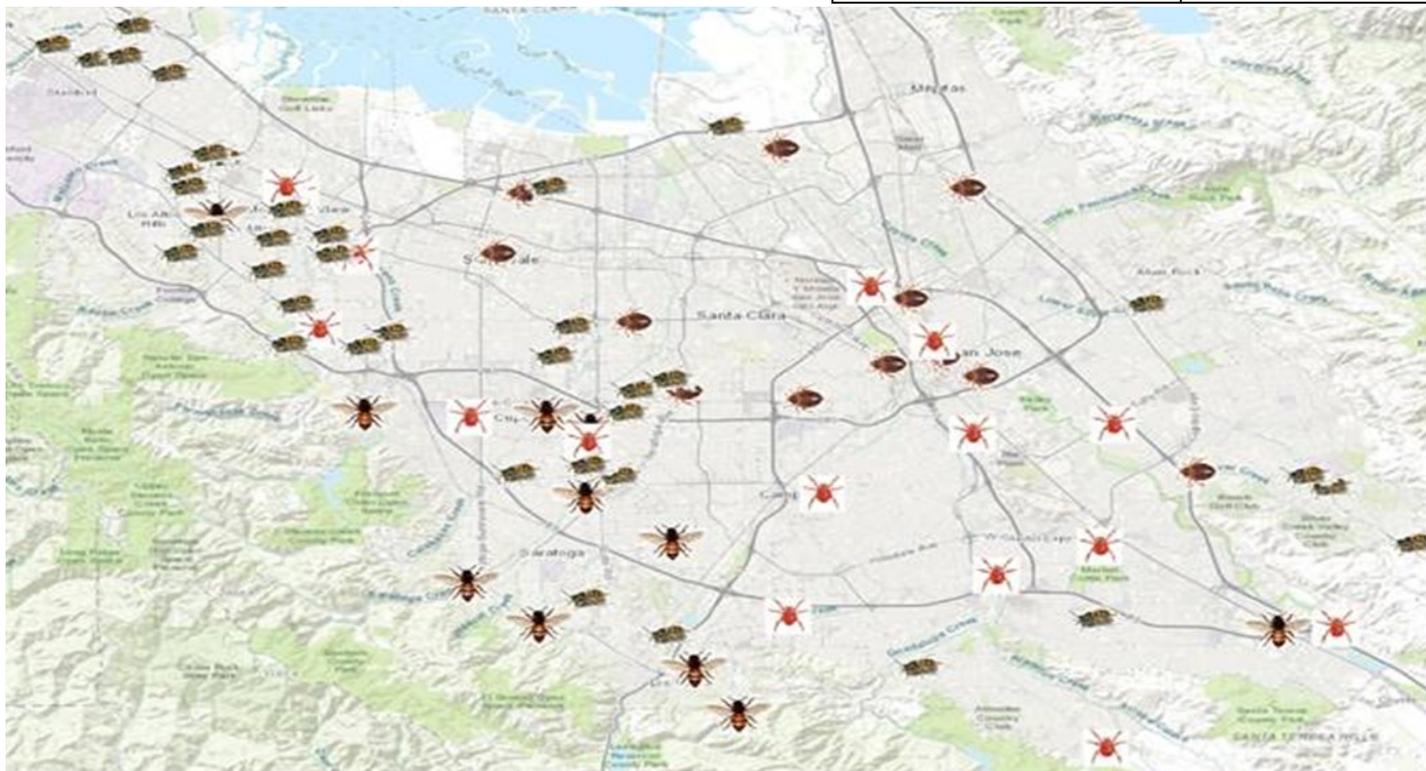
SEPTEMBER SERVICE REQUESTS

The District received a total of 475 service requests during September. Common service requests included mosquitoes, rodents, raccoons, wasps/yellowjackets, coyotes, and mosquitofish.

REQUEST	TOTAL
Mosquitoes	129
Rodents	113
Raccoons	40
Wasps/Yellowjackets	36
Coyote	32
Mosquitofish	30
Other invertebrate	15
Other vertebrate	15
Bed bug	13
Skunk	11
bats	8
Opossum	7
Bees	7
Cockroaches	7
Squirrels	5
Snake	3
Neglected pool	3
Insect ID	1

INSECT IDENTIFICATION

The District offers free insect identification services. The public can send submit a photo online through our service request form, at SCCVector.org, email vectorinfo@cep.sccgov.org, or drop off the sample at the District office. If possible, live samples are preferred. The District also provides sticky monitoring traps at no charge, to help capture insects.



Bed bug, yellowjacket, and other invertebrate service requests

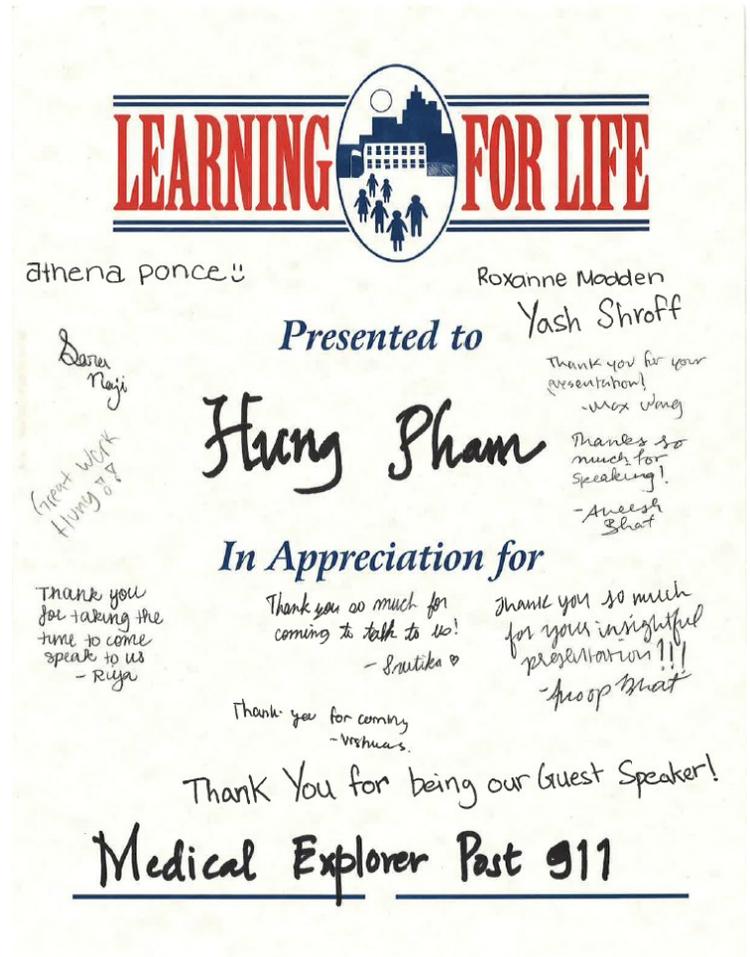
OUTREACH PROGRAM

PUBLIC EDUCATION

September outreach efforts included hosting an educational booth at the City of Sunnyvale City fair, CISCO fair, and providing educational presentations to Covington Elementary School, Owens Early College High School, and a rodent presentation to the Eastside Neighborhood Senior Center. Our Health Education Specialist also presented to a Boy Scout group, that sent us this thank you note for being a guest speaker.

Each year, the District strives to educate community members on the importance of mosquito control and vector control, by providing educational information on managing other vectors such as rodents, cockroaches, and wildlife. The District offers school presentations for K-12 students, community presentations, and educational booths year-round. Interested parties can submit a presentation request online at SCCVector.org, submit an email to VectorOureach@cep.sccgov.org, or call 408-918-4794.

We thank all of the individuals and groups who provide us the opportunity to collaborate with their organizations.



Boy Scout Group Thank You Note



Western Blacklegged Tick (*Ixodes pacificus*)
*photo for educational purposes only

MISSION

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