

## Community Aerial Mosquito Control Applications Planned for East Modesto and Empire

**Modesto, CA:** East Side Mosquito Abatement District has scheduled aerial mosquito control applications for approximately 3,320 acres in East rural Modesto and Empire. The application objective is to control mosquitoes that emerged from some irrigated pastures/fields that received irrigation this past week. The irrigation districts finds themselves a little more water and have been encouraging farmers to take some more water for their needs but assist in water recharge. The treatments are planned for Wednesday, October 30, 2024 between 8:30 pm and 10:30 pm, and may be rescheduled for the same time for Thursday, October 31, 2024 in case of inclement weather.

The aerial adult mosquito control application will use Dibrom® applied at rate of 0.75 fluid ounces per acre targeting adult mosquitoes. Vector Disease Control, Inc (VDCI), a mosquito control company operating out of Sacramento, California shall conduct the applications. According to District Manager Wakoli Wekesa, “the District would like to close the season well, it has been eventful mosquito season, our efforts controlled West Nile virus in our communities this season.”

Residents in the targeted areas of East rural Modesto and Empire (see attached map) should take the necessary precaution of keeping windows closed and, if possible, staying indoors once the aircrafts fly over their neighborhood for a few minutes. Homeowners are urged to keep children indoors, same with pets, and cover backyard fishponds as a precaution during and a couple of hours after spray time. Additional information and the intended spray area can be found on the District website; also, please call the District at (209) 522-4098 or visit [www.eastsidemosquito.com](http://www.eastsidemosquito.com) if you have additional questions.

### How residents can help reduce mosquitoes:

- Dump and Drain Standing Water: Mosquitoes lay eggs in and near standing water. Mosquitoes only need a tablespoon of water to lay eggs. Potted plant saucers are the leading breeding source for the invasive *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Limit the number of places mosquitoes can breed by dumping and draining items that hold water.

### Prevent mosquito bites:

- Wear insect repellent. [EPA-registered ingredients](#) such as DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 (as directed on the product label).
- Check window and door screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.

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