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**EAST SIDE
MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
Stanislaus County**

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J. Wakoli Wekesa, PhD
District Manager

East Side Mosquito Abatement District Takes Steps to Slow the Spread of COVID-19

We are facing a truly unique time as the situation with coronavirus continues to evolve. All of our staff, residents, and visitors are being affected in many ways. East Side Mosquito Abatement District (District) is taking all proactive measures to protect our staff and community to lessen the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

As a public health agency, the health and safety of our staff and residents is paramount. Starting Thursday March 19, the District will close its facilities to the public as a precautionary measure to help decrease the spread of COVID-19. Residents are free to call into the District with any requests during normal business hours of 7:30 am through 3:00 pm Monday to Friday. Individual service requests and in-person property inspections shall be serviced on case-by-case basis through Friday, April 3, 2020. The official start date of District operations of the mosquito season is April 6, 2020. The District will reevaluate social distancing guidance at that time.

Our Mosquito Control Technicians will continue monitoring and treating for mosquitoes in public and private areas. Although access to the District offices is limited, we continue to provide critical services to ensure mosquito populations don't get out of hand. Although people are focused on the epidemic of coronavirus, the season for mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile Virus (WNV) is with us again.

It is important to remember that COVID-19 is not transmitted through a mosquito bite. However, other viruses, such as WNV, can be. Therefore, residents are asked to be proactive in the coming weeks while they stay home or self-quarantine by eliminating mosquito sources inside and around their property. Steps such as dump and drain of standing water around your home, avoid being outdoors from dawn to dusk, use EPA-recommended insect repellents when outdoors, and ensure swimming pools, spas, and other water features on your property are in functional condition will reduce mosquito borne diseases.

For more information on how to prevent mosquito breeding, Stanislaus County residents should contact East Side Mosquito Abatement District at (209 522-4098 [phone] or www.eastsidemosquito.com) or Turlock Mosquito Abatement District (209-634-1234 [phone] or www.turlockmosquito.com). Please check for additional updates at our website.

Stanislaus County residents can find updated information regarding COVID-19 by contacting the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency at www.schsa.org.