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**EAST SIDE  
MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
Stanislaus County  
2000 Santa Fe Avenue  
Modesto, CA 95357  
209 522 4098**



J. Wakoli Wekesa, PhD  
District Manager

NUMBER: 24-03  
FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Date: September 26, 2024  
Contact: Dr. Wakoli Wekesa  
Phone: (209) 522-4098

**Community Mosquito Control Applications Planned for Empire, East Rural Riverbank, East, North, and Southwest Modesto**

**Modesto, CA:** East Side Mosquito Abatement District has scheduled additional aerial mosquito control applications for approximately 9,354 acres over East rural Riverbank, Empire, east, north, and southwest communities of Modesto. The application is primarily focused on reducing the number of mosquitoes and limit the risk of local transmission of mosquito-borne viruses including West Nile virus. The aerial treatments are planned for Saturday, September 28, 2024 between 9:00 pm and 11:00 pm, and may be rescheduled for the same time for Sunday, September 29, 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 is focused on keeping the community safe from West Nile virus and making sure the public is aware of all these efforts so they can take the necessary precautions." The members of the public are advised to check our [website](#) for maps of new large-scale treatment areas every week through September.

Residents in the targeted areas of East rural Riverbank, Empire, east, north, and southwest Modesto (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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