

## **Community Aerial Mosquito Control Applications Planned for Empire, East and Southwest of Modesto**

**Modesto, CA:** East Side Mosquito Abatement District has scheduled aerial mosquito control applications for approximately 7,730 acres over Empire, and east and southwest communities of Modesto. The applications are 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 Friday, August 16, 2024 between 9:00 pm and 11:00 pm, and be rescheduled for the same time on Saturday, August 16, 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. “VDCI operates a fleet of twin-engine aircrafts permitted to fly over congested areas unlike the single engine aircraft owned by and operated by East Side Mosquito Abatement District” said District Manager Wakoli Wekesa. The District may not necessarily publish press releases for future applications, however members of the public are advised to check our [website](#) for maps of new treatment areas by VDCI every week through September.

Residents in the targeted areas of Empire, east and southwest Modesto per [the 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. Any impacts of the product are temporary and transient clearing in a few minutes. 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).

### **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.