



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Second Local Bird Tests Positive for West Nile Virus in Ventura County**

VENTURA, California – The Ventura County Environmental Health Division (Division) has received confirmation from the California Department of Public Health that a bird collected in the City of Ventura on May 28, 2026, has tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). This is the second WNV-positive bird identified in Ventura County this year. The first positive bird was collected in the City of Ventura on May 12, 2026. WNV is established in Ventura County, and additional WNV positive detections are expected throughout the mosquito season. **Ventura County Public Health confirms that no human cases of WNV have been identified to date in 2026.**

The Division monitors and controls mosquito breeding sources throughout Ventura County. All mosquito breeding sources in the area where the bird was collected will be inspected and treated if evidence of mosquito breeding is observed.

The Division also advises the public to take the following precautions to minimize exposure to WNV:

- Eliminate all standing water sources from your property.
- Ensure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens without holes.
- When outdoors, wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts and limit activity, especially at dawn and dusk
- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent containing Picaridin, DEET, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (or PMD), or IR3535.

WNV can not only affect humans but can also affect horses. For information on WNV in horses, the owners should contact their veterinarian.

To report mosquitoes or potential mosquito breeding sources in Ventura County, the public can call the mosquito complaint HOTLINE at (805) 658-4310. The Division also provides mosquito eating fish to the public to use in non-maintained swimming pools, ornamental ponds, and similar water features.

To request mosquito-eating fish call (805) 662-6582. Report wild birds that have died recently at [westnile.ca.gov](http://westnile.ca.gov), or call 877/WNV-Bird (877) 968-2473.

To obtain information about mosquito control and surveillance efforts in Ventura County please visit the Division's website: <https://rma.venturacounty.gov/divisions/environmental-health/vector-control-program/>

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