



Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District

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West Nile Virus Positive Mosquitoes Confirmed in Mecca

This is the fourth sample from the east valley positive for virus in 2022.

Coachella Valley, CA: Mosquitoes collected in Mecca tested positive for [West Nile Virus](#) (WNV) near Johnson Street and Avenue 70.

The Coachella Valley [Mosquito and Vector Control District](#) is increasing mosquito control technicians in these areas and will carry out mosquito control [treatments](#) as needed to reduce the number of mosquitoes and interrupt further transmission of the virus.

“Even if you don’t live in the east side of the valley, detections like this should put us all on alert to wear repellent,” said Tammy Gordon, Public Information Officer for the District. “At least thirty percent of an active ingredient like DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 is best. Do not use essential oils as mosquito repellent.”

No human cases of mosquito-borne illness have been reported in the Coachella Valley or the [state](#) this year.

About West Nile Virus

WNV spread when a female mosquito bites an infected bird. The mosquito then can become a carrier and transmit the virus to people. Most infected people will have no [symptoms](#). Others will develop fever, headaches, and body aches; hospitalization is required in some cases, and in rare cases, death occurs. People with symptoms should contact their health care provider.

Prevent mosquito bites:

- Don’t go outside around dawn and dusk when these mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear insect repellent. [EPA registered ingredients](#) such as DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 (as directed on the product label).
- Cover up. Wear long sleeve shirts and long pants when mosquitoes are most active.
- Check window and door screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.

Prevent mosquitoes around your home:

- Check lawn drains for water and debris. Clean drains regularly.
- Inspect yards for standing water sources. Drain water that collects under potted plants, bird baths, tires, and any other water holding containers.
- Clean and scrub pet dishes and water features weekly.
- Swimming pools, ponds, and fountains require working pumps and regular maintenance.

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