

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2023

Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District

12545 Florence Avenue,
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
562-944-9656



Media Contacts

Department of Communications | media@GLAmosquito.org | 562-967-9030

Vector Control Encourages Residents to Level Up and “Beat Mosquitoes at Their Game” This Summer

New summer campaign launched for National Mosquito Control Awareness Week starting June 18th

Santa Fe Springs, CA (June 19, 2023)- As summer and warmer weather is steadily approaching, millions of residents across Los Angeles County look forward to outdoor activities, but one annoying nuisance disrupts their environment – mosquitoes. Recognizing that residents feel they are in a losing game with mosquitoes, the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD/District) has launched its summer campaign, “Game On Mosquitoes” during National Mosquito Control Awareness Week (June 18-24) to encourage residents to win the game against mosquitoes in their home.

In the District’s latest public service announcement, residents trying to enjoy their backyard are bothered by pesky mosquitoes and their bites. Taking matters into their own hands, residents “level up” like video game characters and “beat mosquitoes at their own game” by earning points as they eliminate standing water, wear insect repellent, and take action around their property.

“The invasive *Aedes* mosquito has changed the way Los Angeles County residents experience the outdoors, especially during the summer,” said Susanne Kluh, the district’s general manager. “We hope this campaign will give residents confidence to adopt preventative measures that will allow them to win against mosquitoes this summer and enjoy the outdoors once again.”

Mosquitoes become most active during the summer months leaving many residents frustrated and looking for mosquito solutions. But it’s not just a bite; mosquitoes can transmit debilitating diseases like West Nile virus (WNV) which is why residents must be proactive against them.

“Los Angeles County has become increasingly challenged by a new mosquito world, especially with the introduction of the invasive *Aedes* mosquito in 2001,” said Steve Vetrone, director of scientific technical services. “Not only are we dealing with the infestation of this daytime biting mosquito, but we are also faced with preventing an outbreak of West Nile virus from our native *Culex* species. “

Combating these two species of mosquitoes starts at home and residents should inspect their property for standing water. Residents can access online tools and resources such as the Mosquito Source Checklist at www.GameOnMosquitoes.org. Mosquito control is a shared responsibility and residents must take an active role in reducing the threat of mosquito-borne disease in their neighborhoods by taking the following steps:

- Eliminate standing water in clogged rain gutters, rain barrels, discarded tires, buckets, watering troughs or anything that holds water for over a week.
- Ensure that swimming pools, spas, and ponds are properly maintained.
- Change the water in pet dishes, bird baths and other small containers weekly.
- Request mosquitofish from your local vector control district for placement in ornamental ponds.
- Wear EPA-recommended insect repellent when outdoors where mosquitoes may be present.
- Report neglected (green) swimming pools in your neighborhood to the district.

For more information, residents can contact the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at 562-944-9656, online at www.GLAmosquito.org, or on social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#).

###

About GLACVCD

The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District is a public health service agency formed under the authority of the California State Health & Safety Code. Our mission is to reduce populations of public health vectors below nuisance levels and prevent human infection associated with mosquito-transmitted diseases.