

**Contact:**

**Russ Parman**      **408-593-6176**  
**Tim Mulligan**     **408-593-6175**

1555 Berger Dr.  
Suite 300  
San Jose, CA 95112  
408-918-4770  
[www.sccvector.org](http://www.sccvector.org)

**County of  
Santa Clara**



**Vector Control District**  
**Department of Environmental Health**

**For Immediate Release**

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## **AERIAL SEARCH FOR MOSQUITO SOURCES CONTINUES**

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—The Santa Clara County Vector Control District will conduct an aerial search for mosquito breeding sources that could potentially carry West Nile Virus on Monday, September 8. A plane equipped with digital photography capability will survey 105 square miles looking for neglected pools and other sources that could harbor developing mosquitoes and potentially carry the West Nile virus.

The 105 square miles will include portions of Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga, Stanford and Sunnyvale. This includes the regions which have never been surveyed, or not surveyed since last year. A map of the survey areas is available on the District's website at [www.sccvector.org](http://www.sccvector.org).

A single poorly maintained swimming pool can produce millions of mosquitoes which can be a nuisance and pose health risks for an entire neighborhood. "During the past two years, we've had tremendous success with aerial surveys in helping detect neglected swimming pools and ponds," said District Manager Tim Mulligan. "Aerial surveys continue to be a vital part of our urban mosquito control program."

The District's first two aerial surveys this year were conducted in early May and early August, and identified more than 600 properties with green pools. Since the survey, there have been over 860 inspections and 135 treatments or fish plantings on these properties.

Vector Control Technicians will contact and explain to property owners, identified through the aerial survey, the health risk posed by poorly maintained swimming pools and ponds. In cooperation with the property owners, immediate steps will be taken to resolve the problem. Although formal enforcement has not been necessary to date, property owners can be subject to fines of up to \$1,000 per day for failure to abate a public health nuisance.

"Although no human cases of West Nile virus have been identified in Santa Clara County this year, we have found three positive mosquito samples that resulted in residential ground foggings in two areas of the county," said Assistant Manager Russ Parman. "Residents still need to take precautions against mosquito bites, such as using insect repellents and eliminating standing water on their properties."

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