



June 13, 2025

NEWS RELEASE

First Detection of Mosquito-Borne Disease in Kern County Mosquito Population for 2025

The first mosquito sample has been confirmed for [West Nile virus](#) (WNV) in Kern County this year. WNV is mainly transmitted to people through the bites of infected mosquitoes. While many mosquito-borne illnesses such as WNV cause only mild symptoms in most people, the infection can cause severe illness and even death in rare cases.

While there have been no human cases reported in Kern County yet this year, Kern County Public Health reminds everyone to take precautions to protect yourself from mosquitoes.

Reduce mosquito breeding sites:

- Remove standing or stagnate water from containers such flowerpots, fountains, birdbaths, pet bowls, and wading pools.
- Clean/scrub containers that collect water weekly to remove any potential mosquito eggs.
- Maintain swimming pools in working condition.
- Stock garden ponds with fish that eat mosquito larvae.
- Report areas of mosquito infestation to your local vector control district.

Decrease risk of mosquito-transmitted infections:

- Avoid mosquitoes and mosquito-infested areas at all times of the day.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.
- Apply mosquito repellent to exposed skin when outdoors.
- Ensure doors and windows have screens in good repair to keep mosquitoes out of your home.

Although the first positive mosquito sample has been identified in the 93307 zip code, it is important for everyone to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites. Contact your local mosquito and vector control agency if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live, work, or play. Please visit our regularly updated interactive [webpage](#) for more information.

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