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To promote and protect the health and well-being of Kings County residents through education, prevention, and intervention.



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Date of Release: July 24, 2025

### **FIRST HUMAN CASE OF WEST NILE VIRUS DETECTED IN KINGS COUNTY**

**HANFORD, CA** – On July 10, 2025, the Kings County Department of Public Health (KCDPH) received confirmation from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) that the first human case of West Nile virus (WNV) this season in Kings County has been detected. This is the third WNV case reported in California this year.

“The mosquito population has been increasing over the last few weeks” said Michael Cavanagh, District Manager of Kings Mosquito Abatement District (KMAD). “We strongly recommend people take the appropriate precautions when mosquitoes are active- usually at dawn and dusk.”

There is currently no human vaccine available for WNV. Most people infected with WNV will experience no symptoms or only mild, flu-like symptoms, such as fever, headache, joint pain, and/or rash. However, the virus can lead to serious health complications, especially for older adults or individuals with underlying medical conditions. Severe symptoms may include stiff neck, confusion, seizures, paralysis, coma, or even death.

KCDPH, in partnership with KMAD, encourages the public to protect themselves from mosquito bites by following the “Three Ds”:

1. **DEET** – Use an EPA-registered insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535. Always follow the label instructions, especially when applying repellent to children. These products help prevent mosquito bites.
2. **DAWN AND DUSK** – Mosquitoes that transmit WNV are most active at dawn and dusk. Wear long sleeves and pants if you’re outdoors during these times and ensure window and door screens are in good condition to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
3. **DRAIN** – Mosquitoes breed in standing water. Eliminate potential breeding grounds by emptying containers such as flowerpots, buckets, tires, or anything else that collects water around your home

The community is encouraged to report on any swimming pool that is not being properly maintained. Please contact the KMAD as they provide mosquito fish for swimming pools, backyard ponds, and horse troughs free of charge. To contact the district please call (559) 584-3326 or via their website at: [www.kingsmosquito.net](http://www.kingsmosquito.net). Additional information regarding West Nile Virus may be found at: <https://westnile.ca.gov/>.