**Don’t Fall for Summer Mosquito Tricks**

If you’re a resident of [CITY], then you know fall is a fun time in your city. However, this season’s fun can be interrupted by uninvited visitors: blood-sucking, disease-carrying mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes and warm weather go hand-in-hand. This is especially apparent with the warm summer we experienced this year in Southern California. As temperatures warm, the threat of West Nile virus increases. West Nile virus is a potentially dangerous disease transmitted by mosquitoes that can lead to death in humans, horses and birds. In milder cases, patients experience fevers, body aches, and headaches. In more severe cases, patients can experience coma, paralysis, and, unfortunately, death.

“People may mistakenly think mosquitoes are just annoyances,” says FIRST LAST NAME, CITY OFFICIAL TITLE. “But in [CITY] and surrounding communities, they can pose a very serious threat to our health.”

Fortunately, [CITY] has been working with the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District (SGVMVCD) to make sure residents understand the risks. Vector control has specialized staff that monitor diseases and control mosquitoes and other vectors that pose a threat to our health and comfort.

“Summer isn’t for mosquitoes anymore,” says Levy Sun, public information officer for SGVMVCD. “The aggressive-biting, daytime Aedes mosquitoes are just as active during the fall and winter seasons as long as it’s warm.”

While Vector Control and [CITY] are fighting mosquitoes in parks, street gutters and public areas, we need your help to control them around your home. Here are some ways you can help:

* Tip ‘n toss stagnant water once a week. Spend 10 minutes to walk around your home to identify containers that can hold water and remove them. Make it game with the kids!
* If families are outdoors when mosquitoes are active, apply insect repellent. Just because you don’t see them, doesn’t mean mosquitoes won’t find you! The most effective repellents contain active ingredients such as Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus (PMD), IR3535, or DEET. Always apply according to label instructions.
* Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep mosquitoes out. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
* Do you notice dirty, green pools or other potential mosquito breeding sources in your community? Let us know! Vector Control does free inspections and can help many people solve mosquito issues. Call us at 626-814-9466 or online at sgvmosquito.org.
* Invite Vector Control to your next event at a church, fair or organization. In addition to protecting public health, Vector Control loves educating the community! Call them at 626-814-9466 or online at sgvmosquito.org.