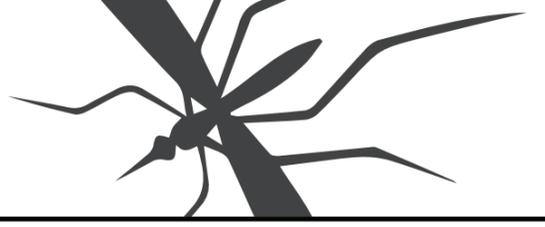


SPECIAL REPORT



Invasive *Aedes* Mosquitoes in San Gabriel Valley

LA COUNTY

#OutWithAedes



Aedes albopictus, commonly known as the Asian tiger mosquito, pictured above, is one of three invasive mosquito species found in LA County. All three species are black with white stripes and bite aggressively during the day. Health officials are asking residents to remove breeding sources from their home.

Invasive Mosquitoes Force Change

Invasive and especially resilient mosquitoes in the genus *Aedes* are rapidly spreading throughout California, infesting at least 70 cities from as far north as Hayward all the way to the Mexican border. Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes bite aggressively during the day and are capable of transmitting several viruses that can make people sick.

Last summer the residents of more than 20 cities in Los Angeles County experienced life with invasive *Aedes* and for many it was not pretty. "A huge number of residents have expressed concern this past summer about an increased incidence of mosquito bites," says Jason Farned, Public Information Officer at the San Gabriel Valley

Mosquito and Vector Control District. "People from all parts of the community call and tell us about the uncommon frequency and ferocity of the bites and describe how it makes time spent outdoors miserable. People in the San Gabriel Valley have never been bitten by mosquitoes during the day and our tolerance is zero."

"Every member of the community must remove or manage all containers on their property that might hold water."

-Jason Farned, public Information Officer for SGVMVCD

Invasive *Aedes* are quite different from our common mosquitoes and have traits which make them very difficult to manage. Their eggs are extremely resilient and are laid

in small containers of water. Traditional pesticide treatments provide just short term relief and are not a permanent solution. According to public health officials, the only way to effectively reduce the population of invasive *Aedes* is through a shared responsibility between residents and vector control to eliminate the sources of water where they lay their eggs. "This means," Farned explains, "that every member of the community must remove or manage all containers on their property that might hold water. Containers can be as common as rain barrels and buckets, as small as a bottle cap, or as unconventional as a chip bag or soda can." Plants and plant litter can also hold water including bromeliads, downed palm fronds, and traveler's palms.

A BIG Thank You!

The San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District along with local leaders would like to thank all of the residents who have already made the effort to remove containers, change their landscapes and their habits to help reduce the populations of invasive *Aedes*.

"I would like to thank all of the residents who have made the effort to remove containers and alter landscaping that are conducive to breeding invasive mosquitoes."

- Congressmember Judy Chu (CA-27)

"Addressing invasive mosquitoes will require a community-wide effort. I would like to thank those residents who are leading the way and have already cleared their properties of potential breeding sources."

- Janice Nelson, M.D., SGVMVCD Board of Trustees

"Protecting the health of Californian's is a top priority and a shared responsibility to protect against invasive mosquitoes. I want to thank all of the residents who are already doing their part by preventing mosquitoes from breeding on their properties."

- Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez, O.D. (SD-22)

"The District and I want to thank all of the residents who have gone above and beyond to help share information with their own communities about invasive *Aedes*."

- Kenn Fujioka, District Manager SGVMVCD

Winter Scrub Down

Eliminate next year's mosquitoes now by joining your neighbors in the Winter Scrub Down.

As temperatures drop, the mosquitoes may be gone, but there could be thousands of eggs in your backyard right now waiting to hatch when warm temperatures return in 2016. Remember, eggs of invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes are extremely resilient and can sit, dry and dormant, for years waiting for the right conditions. Simply removing the water from a container will not destroy the eggs that are sticking to it. Inva-

sive *Aedes* glue their eggs individually on the inside edges of containers and on the stems of plants submerged in water. When water is removed or the temperature gets too cold *Aedes* eggs simply wait until acceptable conditions return (warm temperatures along with standing water).

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To actually destroy *Aedes* eggs, residents must scrub with soap, water, and a scrub brush or scouring pad the inside of all containers potentially exposed to mosquitoes, either indoors or outdoors.

Winter gives us relief from mosquitoes and it also gives us an opportunity to rid our property of *Aedes* mosquitoes eggs. Scrub out all objects in the yard that might have held water. Participating in the Winter Scrub Down will give us a clean slate next year when the temperatures rise and the mosquitoes become active. The first generation of next season's mosquitoes is sitting in your backyard right now. Don't even give them a chance to hatch.

Join the conversation and tell us what you've scrubbed.

#WinterScrubDown



Scrub Down and Keep Dry



- Kiddie Pools & Children's Toys
- Buckets
- Watering Cans
- Ornamental Pots

Throw Away



- Old Tires
- Trash and Debris
- Flower Pot Trays
- Bromeliads

Mosquito Repellents

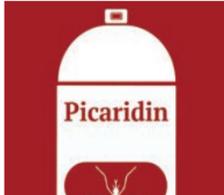
Using an effective mosquito repellent is hugely important in preventing mosquito-borne diseases as well as the discomfort caused from bites. Choose a repellent containing one of the following active ingredients and use it according to the manufacturer whenever you are spending time outdoors.

DEET

IR3535®

PICARIDIN

Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus



INVASIVE *Aedes* Not your common MOSQUITO

Common <i>Culex</i>		Invasive <i>Aedes</i>	
Bites Between Dusk and Dawn		Aggressive Day Biters	
Bites Birds & Humans		Bites Primarily Humans	
Lays Eggs in Rafts of 100+		Lays Individual Eggs	
Eggs Hatch Within a Week		Eggs Remain Viable for Years	
Lives and Breeds Primarily Outdoors		Can Live and Breed Indoors & Outdoors	
Transmits West Nile Virus		Transmits Dengue & Chikungunya	

Invasive *Aedes* bite aggressively during the day which is something residents in CA are not used to. This will change the way we use outdoor spaces.

Invasive *Aedes* prefer to bite humans and can bite multiple hosts per blood meal. This means they are very efficient vectors of disease. One mosquito can be responsible for multiple bites on the same person.

By laying their eggs individually in different places *Aedes* mosquitoes increase the likelihood of survival. It also makes the eggs more difficult to find and destroy.

Because eggs can remain viable for years, simply removing the water from containers is not sufficient. Containers should be thrown away or scrubbed out to permanently remove and destroy the eggs.

Invasive *Aedes* have evolved to live in close contact with humans. They prefer urban environments, live inside homes, are transported by vehicles and primarily bite humans

Invasive *Aedes* are capable of transmitting several serious tropical diseases like dengue chikungunya, and zika virus.



Vector Control Specialists find invasive *Aedes* inside of bromeliads that collect standing water.

What Should You Do?

1. Clean up the junk and clutter in the yard. Invasive *Aedes* are 'container breeders' and will lay their eggs in toys, soda cans, and even trash. Check your yard carefully for anything that will collect rain or sprinkler water.
2. Do not grow plants in water-filled buckets or vases - even indoors. Also, remove saucers from under potted plants. These can breed hundreds of mosquitoes every week.
3. Remove bromeliads from your landscape.
4. If you collect and store water, make sure all containers are tightly covered with a lid or screen (22 point mesh or smaller). Rain barrels create the perfect environment for mosquitoes to lay their eggs and grow.
5. Scrub outdoor containers that have held water with hot, soapy water to kill mosquito eggs. Store in a dry place.
6. Talk to your neighbors - share what you know.

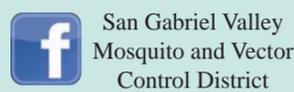
Report activity and request service from your local vector control agency:



San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District
1145 N Azusa Canyon Road
West Covina, CA 91790
(626) 814-9466

www.SGVMosquito.org

Stay Connected:



#SGVMosquito #OutWithAedes #WinterScrubDown