

# Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

**For Immediate Release**  
June 28, 2021



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## Mosquito Control Treatments Start in the City of La Habra

**Garden Grove, CA.** The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District (OCMVCD) will be conducting a Wide Area Larvicide Spray (WALS) treatment to address the mosquito abundance in the City of La Habra. The larvicide application will target cryptic water sources and prevent the immature mosquitoes from developing into adult mosquitoes. La Habra has historically had high West Nile virus activity and higher than average numbers of mosquitoes.

The WALS applications will be conducted Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 10pm - 5am in the City of La Habra. Applications will occur throughout the summer into October. The WALS treatment being applied will use a product called VectoBac® WDG, which contains *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti), an OMRI rated naturally occurring bacterium. Bti has no toxicity to people and pets and is certified for the treatment of organic crops. The application will not harm the finishes on cars or homes.

**More information about treatments:**

<https://www.ocvector.org/residential-truck-mounted-treatments>

“The WALS treatment is an additional tool the District can add to our Integrated Vector Management (IVM) Program,” said Rick Howard, OCMVCD District Manager. “This treatment will prevent mosquitoes from emerging into biting adults and will help prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases.”

Residents located in the treatment areas will be notified prior to the treatment date with signs posted in their neighborhoods or a flyer left at their door. Residents can sign up for application notifications at [ocvector.org](http://ocvector.org) through the OCMVCD e-Alert system.

All control products used by OCMVCD are registered by the federal and state Environmental Protection Agency for the purpose of controlling mosquitoes and to safeguard public health.

As OCMVCD continues to identify and treat mosquito breeding sources, it is essential that residents do their part in eliminating standing water on their properties. Even a capful of water can produce hundreds of mosquitoes.

“Residents need to take action by dumping and draining standing water in containers on

their property. We must reduce mosquito breeding around homes to reduce the presence of adult mosquitoes and prevent diseases mosquitoes have the potential to transmit,” stated Heather Hyland, OCMVCD Public Information Officer.

**Residents must take charge of their yard to prevent mosquitoes from breeding on their property:**

- Tip out any standing water at least once a week
- Toss out any unused containers
- Clean and scrub bird baths and pet water bowls weekly
- Do not transport or share plant clippings rooted in water
- Drill a hole or puncture containers to eliminate standing water

**To prevent mosquito bites, take action, and follow these tips:**

- Apply mosquito repellents to exposed skin before going outdoors; reapply as recommended
- Wear repellent containing DEET®, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus
- Close all unscreened doors and windows to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home or space; repair broken or damaged screens
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants, and opt for lighter-colored clothing

Residents are encouraged to sign up for District email notifications. For more information, visit [www.ocvector.org](http://www.ocvector.org).

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