

West Nile virus found at additional Butte County sites

By Staff Reports, ChicoER.com

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West Nile virus has been found in several more locations in Butte County, indicating the disease it entrenched for the year.

A dozen groups of mosquitoes tested positive for the disease, east of Gridley, west of Gridley, and in Biggs and East Biggs, according to a press release from the Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District.

Less than two weeks the disease was first noted in the county, in south Chico and Honcut.

The district urges residents to drain all un-needed standing water, report any suspected mosquito-breeding sites, and protect themselves from the bites of mosquitoes.

“Once the adult mosquito populations have been found carrying the virus, the mosquitoes then have the capability of infecting our residents,” said District Manager Matthew Ball. “It’s imperative that residents assist with the prevention of mosquito breeding by inspecting and eliminating all standing water from their properties and to protect themselves from the bite of mosquitoes.”

According to the state’s [West Nile virus website](#), the disease has also been found in Glenn, Yuba, Sutter, Shasta and 26 other counties.

The virus has been found in Butte County every year since 2004. It has infected 153 people here, and while most have no symptoms or minor symptoms, seven people have died of the disease.

Residents should use mosquito repellents, and/or wear long sleeves and pants, especially in mornings and evenings when mosquitoes are most active.

The District invites residents to report any suspected mosquito-breeding sites and/or any mosquito activity by calling 533-6038 or 342-7350 or going to www.BCMVCD.com.