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# Mosquitoes and the bugs they spread

#### An Independent District Protecting Public Health

since 1930



Oakland City Council Presentation x/xx/xxxx

## What we'll talk about today

- Overview of ACMAD
- Mosquito Biology
- Where mosquitoes breed
- Mosquito control
- Bugs transmitted by bugs
  - West Nile virus
    - Response plan
  - Zika virus
    - Response plan
- Mosquito breeding in the City of Oakland

#### History and Overview

- Formed in 1930 as an Independent Special District
- Serve all cities and unincorporated areas of Alameda County, except for the City of Albany
- Governed by a board of 14 Trustees, appointed by their respective cities and the County-at-Large
- Three sources of revenue contribute to a balanced budget of \$3.9 million
  - Ad valorum tax
    (.0009% of 1% property tax)
  - 1983 Special Tax (\$1.72/per parcel)
  - 2008 Benefit Assessment (\$2.50, never raised)
- Fully-funded retiree health benefits, 85% funded pension, and debt free
- 16 full-time and six seasonal staff, with a full fleet of vehicles, aquaculture program, and a fully capable molecular laboratory at our Hayward facility

## Mosquito Ecology, Biology, & Control



one of the most voracious predators of humans

## What do mosquitoes need?

- Water:
  - Stagnant
    - *Culex pipiens* (common house mosquito)
  - Clear:
    - Aedes aegypti (yellow fever mosquito)
- 1-2 weeks for growth:
- Depends on species Blood:
  - Typically birds, people, or other mammals



# Adult female mosquitoes need water to lay eggs



On the surface of water



Near a spot that will fill with water

#### Aquatic lifestyle

- Urban mosquitoes spend 1<sup>st</sup> 1 2 weeks as larvae or pupae
- Breath air at the surface of water
  - Use a siphon tube for breathing
  - Ripples in the water prevent breathing



## Monitoring mosquito abundance





Dipping for mosquito larvae

#### Larval mosquito management



3 oz of mineral oil placed into catch basins



Biorational larvicide in marsh with breeding mosquitoes

#### Mosquitofish: Gambusia affinis



- Eat a variety of aquatic insects and zooplankton
- Love to eat mosquito larva
- Relatively small
  - 1.5 3 inches
- Live in shallow fresh water
- Resilient to low oxygen levels
- Should not be introduced into natural habitats
  - streams, natural ponds

## Monitoring mosquito abundance and diseases they spread



Testing collected mosquitoes for human diseases



#### Pathogens spread by mosquitoes of concern for Alameda County the short list...

Mosquito vector present in Alameda County:

- West Nile virus
- Western equine encephalitis virus
- Saint Louis encephalitis virus
- Dog heartworm
- Malaria

Mosquito vector present in California:

Zika virus

- Chikungunya virus
- Dengue virus
- Yellow fever virus

# Mosquitoes in the Bay Area that transmit West Nile virus



*Culex pipiens:* common house mosquito

*Culex tarsalis:* western encephalitis mosquito

## West Nile virus transmission cycle



Maintenance cycle with bird reservoir

humans and other mammals.

Birds and mosquitoes.

More than 138 bird species that can be infected, and more than 43 mosquito species can transmit WNV

# Rapid spread of West Nile virus across the US





#### ACMAD's response plan to West Nile virus

• The District's response plan includes:

- In house testing of reported dead birds
- Focused surveillance and testing of all captured mosquitoes
- Intensified inspections and treatments in areas with positive detections
- Key notifications to the public through press releases, social media, and voluntary signup through the District website

#### Mosquitoes that spread Zika virus



Aedes aegypti lyre-shaped pattern on thorax Aedes albopictus bright lateral line on thorax

#### Zika virus

- A lot still unknown
- Discovered in 1947 and named after the Zika Forest in Uganda
- Before 2007, only 14 cases documented
  - But likely many more
- In 2015, thousands of cases
- Transmitted by mosquitoes not native to Alameda County
- Causes rash, microcephaly, and linked to Guillain-Barre´ syndrome



#### How Zika virus spreads



#### Zika virus symptoms



#### Microcephaly



- Symptoms include below-average head size
- Many causes: last year 25,000 children affected in the US
- Also caused by Zika virus infecting and killing brain stem cells early during pregnancy
- Up to 13 % of women infected during 1<sup>st</sup> trimester may have child with severe microcephaly
- Other severe conditions may result from congenital Zika infection:
  - abnormal eyes, reduced cognitive function, developmental disability

source: CDC

# Zika virus: cases reported in the US (as of 9/19/16)





## ACMAD's response plan to invasive *Aedes*

- The District's response plan includes:
  - Door to door inspection and treatments in confirmed detection areas
  - Expanded surveillance to monitor dispersion
  - Coordination with the Alameda County Public Health Department
  - Dissemination of information through press releases and social media
  - Cooperation with local volunteer groups (CERT) in order to collect more information

# Common Sources in the City of Oakland

- Airport sources (Rolls Royce marsh, tank farm)
- Mills College
- AW Pottery
- Lake Merritt (seepages, ponds)
- Lake Temescal
- Leona Trout Ponds
- Port of Oakland—Southern Pacific Terminal
- Unmaintained swimming pools, catch basins (especially downtown & Lake Merritt), flood control channels

#### Contact us for no-cost services:

- mosquitoes biting
- mosquito fish
- advice for reducing mosquito breeding sites
  - at your house or workplace
- Report of standing water or neglected pool
- dead bird report
- educational presentation

www.mosquitoes.org (510) 783 – 7744 <u>acmad@mosquitoes.org</u> Trustee: Dr. Jan O. Washburn Vector Control Technicians: Sarah Erspamer (West) Nick Appice (Central) Ben Rusmisel (East)



