

**COMPTON CREEK MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT**

**GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2023**

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**WEATHER**

Temperatures at Noon:      High – 82      Low – 62      Average – 66

Days Clear – 11              Overcast –8

Service Requests – 1      Rain – 1”

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**OPERATIONAL REPORT**

The District's winter-time inspection and spraying program continued this month. Since cooler temperatures aid in slowing or eliminating mosquito-breeding sources, the District's normal spraying operations are halted, and spraying is performed only when mosquito-breeding is found. Inspections continue to be performed, and residents are continuously updated on steps they can take to help control mosquitoes throughout the District.

The problems with neglected swimming pools, usually a prime mosquito-breeding source, remained minimal during the month. We continue to see positive impacts from the cooperative efforts between the District and residents earlier this year, which allowed District personnel to drain the water from neglected swimming pools. This month, one swimming pool inspection was performed, and mosquito-breeding was found during the inspection and was promptly treated.

Street gutters, box drains, and catch basins continue to receive our full attention. There is standing water on virtually every street in the District, with all of them having the potential to breed mosquitoes. This month, two mosquito-breeding sources were found and treated at the time of the inspections.

Due to cool nighttime temperatures, no inspections of Compton Creek were performed.

Regarding mosquito-borne diseases, such as West Nile virus (WNV), historically, the late summer months produce the highest WNV results. After being bitten by a mosquito, it can take up to 6 to 8 weeks for the virus to take effect on humans, meaning that anyone impacted today was bitten by a mosquito sometime in August or September, the warmest time of the summer throughout California - when mosquitoes are most prevalent. At the time of this writing, there are currently 343 human cases and 11 fatalities in the state of California. There has been no evidence of WNV in the District and only 39 cases in Los Angeles County. Most of the state's WNV infections originate in Tulare County in the San Joaquin Valley in Central California.

During the month, St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE) was discovered in both the Cities of Pasadena and Long Beach. Until West Nile virus (WNV) was discovered in Southern California in 2004, SLE was the dominant mosquito-borne disease in Los Angeles County. It is transmitted by a specific mosquito that is rarely found in Southern California and, historically, has been found only in Riverside and Imperial Counties.

Efforts to locate mosquito-breeding sources were increased in these cities, and public education efforts have been ramped up. District staff updated District residents with articles and ways for residents to protect themselves on all District social media sites, including the District's website.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

The District has continued its public awareness campaign to promote public safety through effective mosquito control and shared public responsibility. Social media platforms are updated daily with information, stories, and best practices on protecting yourself from mosquitoes. District personnel are also in the field daily, distributing mosquito awareness literature and promoting the District's message directly to residents. Finally, when available, the District participates in City-wide events with an informational booth, literature about mosquitoes, and swag for all attendees.

### **DISTRICT REHAB PROJECT**

As of December 8, 2023, negotiations have been ongoing with LPA Inc., and a completed contract has not been reached in time to include this item on the December agenda. When more information is available, it will be passed along to all Board members.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The California Special District Association (CSDA) offers a variety of programs to members, both live events and webinars, that work to increase professional development for District Managers. Programs include reviewing the Ralph M. Brown Act, agency finance, and a Special District Leadership Academy. Assistant to the General Manager Franklin has signed up to participate in a Brown Act webinar and is working with his schedule to attend or view these other professional development classes.

### **DISTRICT BUILDING UPDATES**

The front gate on the District property has been repaired. New batteries were replaced, the entry keypad was serviced, and new fobs for remote control entry were given to the District. To update the Board, power is supplied to the gate by a solar panel that charges the batteries, and no electricity is used.

## AGENDA ITEMS

There are two items for Board consideration and approval.

- The first item is Resolution 07-2023, extending the General Manager's employment until January 31, 2024, and transferring funds within the District's operating budget to cover this cost.

Background – originally, the Board approved the plan to bring on the new employee in the beginning of the fiscal year, July 2023. In the 2023-2024 budget, the salary of the Assistant to the General Manager was funded for six months and the General Manager's salary was funded for six months, until December 31, 2023. The reason for this employee overlay was so that the General Manager could work with the new employee for six months, teaching him the items that are needed to run the District. The new employee, John Franklin, was hired on September 11, 2023, and began work on September 25, 2023, allowing the General Manager and the Assistant to the General Manager three months of working together.

- The next item is changing the District website host to a new website host that has a website format designed for special districts.

Background – in 2017, the District engaged with a company called Edlio, a website designer and host, to create and maintain the District's website. Edlio was created for use by school districts and has many good features but is not designed for special districts and their requirements for websites.

At the Mosquito & Vector Control of California (MVCAC) annual conference in Anaheim this year, a website designer company, Streamline, were presenting their website design that was created for special districts. We talked about this new website and how Streamline works to keep the websites compatible with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This was an issue that Edlio did not address.

Solution – A new website design and host would be beneficial to the District. The current website will be seven years old and should be refreshed and offer more interactive services. The District needs a host to ensure all State and Federal guidelines are met continuously. Streamline fulfills all these requirements for the District's website.

## MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

The Mosquito & Vector Control Association of California (MVCAC) will hold its annual conference in Monterey, CA, January 21-24, 2024. The conference hotel has limited rooms. If anybody would like to attend this conference, please let me know so arrangements can be made.

The American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) will host its annual conference from March 4-8, 2024, at the Sheraton Downtown, Dallas, Texas.

Registration is open, and if anyone would like to attend, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchel R. Weinbaum  
General Manager