

## CONSERVATION CORNER

### Water, Mosquitoes, and Disease Prevention

Cold and flu season serves as a yearly reminder of how disease spreads. It takes just one disease carrier, the vector, in order to spread disease within places like work, school, and home. People aren't always the vectors for diseases though. Various insects (in Southern California these are most commonly mosquitoes) will also act as vectors for different types of diseases. It is important to control these vectors, especially in a place with high population density, like LA County where disease can spread easily and quickly.

Locally the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District works to prevent outbreaks of disease and works with other local vector control districts to keep the greater Los Angeles County area safer. Vector control districts employ several preemptive strategies to manage disease outbreaks and work closely with flood control districts, to ensure water flows rather than pooling in populated areas.

If insects can't be controlled early in their life cycle as eggs or larvae, they are significantly harder to handle. Once a vector reaches adulthood, specialized strategies specific to the insect may need to be employed. This can include biological control, like introducing more of a natural predator to an ecosystem, or chemical controls, spraying pesticides, as a last resort.

La Verne residents will want to ensure that water is not left to stagnate on their property including places like pools, ponds, buckets, and rain barrels. Even a little water left for a short time can be a breeding ground once it's still, so remember to keep water moving, properly treat it, and report chronic standing water issues outside of your property to the vector control district.

### Claremont and Diamond Bar Household Hazardous Waste Events

Please collect your hazardous waste (pesticides, old batteries, used automotive fluids, used cleaning products, etc.) and electronic waste products (computers, old televisions, and broken cell phones) for FREE collection events in Claremont on 2/10/18 from 9am-3pm at Claremont Corporate Yard, 1616 Monte Vista Ave, Claremont, CA 91711 and in Diamond Bar on 3/10/18 at City Streets Gateway Corporate Center, 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive, Diamond Bar 91765. All L.A. County residents are welcome to participate. If you can't make it to this event, there is a roundup nearly every weekend in L.A. County. The entire schedule and more details are posted at [www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com).

