

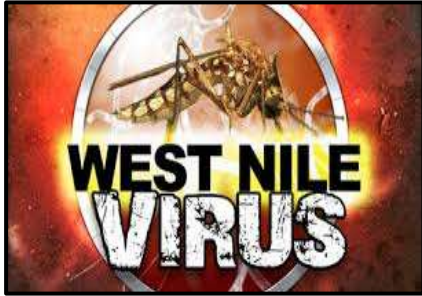
The Moreno Valley Fire Department Offers the Following Halloween Safety Tips:

- When choosing a costume for your child, please consider the following:
 - Stay away from billowing or long trailing fabric
 - Choose material that won't easily ignite if it comes into contact with heat or flame
 - Ensure the eye holes in any masks are large enough so they can see out
 - Monitor your child's hydration level when wearing thick material costumes
 - Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- It is safest to use a flashlight or battery-operated candles in a jack-o-lantern. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and out of the way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- Please keep dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper well away from all open flames and heat sources as they are highly flammable.
- Use flashlights as alternatives to candles or torch lights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- Tell children to stay away from open flames. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out).
- If your children will be going to Halloween parties at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.
- Children should always be accompanied by an adult when trick-or-treating.
 - Closely inspect all candy before allowing children to eat it. Discard any unwrapped treats from a stranger. **If in doubt throw it out.**



The City of Moreno Valley wishes you and your family a safe and fun Halloween.

The Office Of Emergency Management Offers The Following Information:



The City of Moreno Valley Office of Emergency Management would like to inform the public that during this time of year, cases of West Nile Virus are especially active due to high humidity, high temperatures and overall climate changes. It is important for the City of Moreno Valley to be aware of this increased risk and take preventative measures in reducing the exposure of this disease.

West Nile Virus is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Health officials emphasized that the risk of serious illness to humans is low. Most individuals who are infected with WNV will not experience any illness. Elderly individuals and those with compromised immune systems are at greatest risk for serious illness.

Individuals can reduce their risk of mosquito-borne diseases by taking these precautions:

- *Avoid spending time outside when mosquitoes are most active, especially at dawn and dusk.
- *When outdoors, wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and other protective clothing.
- *Apply insect repellent according to label instructions.
- *Make sure that doors and windows have tight fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- *Eliminate all sources of standing water on your property that can support mosquito breeding.
- *Contact your local mosquito and vector control agency if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live or work.

A comprehensive surveillance program to monitor for WNV in Riverside County has been established by the Department of Environmental Health Vector Control, local mosquito and vector control districts and other state and local agencies. The program includes testing suspected cases in humans and horses, capturing and testing mosquitoes, testing sentinel chickens and evaluating dead birds.

Anyone who becomes ill after exposure to mosquitoes should contact his or her health care provider. The Riverside County Department of Public Health Disease Control Office can be reached at (951) 358-5107, for more information about West Nile Virus. Problems related to mosquito control should be directed to the appropriate Mosquito control office:

- *Riverside City Mosquito Control 951-351-6127
- *Riverside County Mosquito Control 951-766-9454
- *Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control 951-340-9792
- *Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District 760-342-8287

If you are unsure of which agency services your area you may go to:
<http://westnile.ca.gov/ziplocator.php> and enter your zip code.

Information about WNV is available on the website established for surveillance in California:
<http://www.westnile.ca.gov>

Dead birds can be reported on that same Web site or by calling toll-free 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473).