WATER RETENTION IN UTILITY VAULTS PROMOTES THE DEVELOPMENT OF MOSQUITOES THAT CAN SPREAD WEST NILE VIRUS.

- Utility vaults have long been recognized as problematic sources for mosquito production, particularly in residential areas.
- In a majority of regions, landscape irrigation or rain may deposit directly into vaults or pool and flow into vaults.
- Often covered by partial or complete shade, the standing water in vaults is protected from evaporation, providing an ideal habitat for mosquitoes to develop and emerge.
- Utility vaults are known to produce the common house mosquito which transmits West Nile virus and St. Louis Encephalitis viruses each year in California.

THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE AEDES MOSQUITOES THROUGHOUT THE STATE HAS EXACERBATED THE UTILITY VAULT PROBLEM. EVEN SMALL AMOUNTS OF WATER IN UTILITY VAULTS CAN PRODUCE LARGE NUMBERS OF MOSQUITOES.

- With the emergence of invasive mosquitoes, vector control districts identified utility vaults as a major source for these mosquitoes.
- Invasive mosquitoes are a major concern to mosquito and vector control districts because they have the ability to transmit viruses such as yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya, and Zika.

UTILITY PROVIDERS AND MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICTS HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH.

- Inconsistent access to utility vault information limits mosquito and vector control districts' ability to apply mosquito control products to the vaults.
CALIFORNIA UTILITY VAULTS ARE A MOSQUITO PRODUCTION SOURCE

CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICTS RESPONDED TO A SURVEY ABOUT MOSQUITO PRODUCTION IN UTILITY VAULTS.

75% reported mosquito production issues in utility vaults

Electrical vaults are the most problematic source for mosquito production because of access issues

31% have sufficient access to utility vaults for their operational needs

50% have active relationships with utility vault providers to address issues

44% are able to obtain the locations of utility vaults within their district

80% of districts that treat utility vaults use expensive residual products to achieve adequate control

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