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Promote
Prevention
Awareness



Join The Champion For West Nile Virus Prevention Challenge!

The 2018 Champion for West Nile virus (WNV) Prevention challenge is an initiative by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LAC DPH) to reduce the local risk of WNV by partnering with LAC cities and Los Angeles city neighborhoods. Participating cities and neighborhoods complete a number of outreach activities to promote WNV prevention practices in their communities. LAC DPH and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will recognize the best performing cities or LA city neighborhoods as Champions for Prevention with award certifications in December 2018. Cities or LA city neighborhoods that stand out for innovation and community engagement activities will also be specially recognized. The following are frequently asked questions about this challenge.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Can any city in LA county participate in Champions for WNV Prevention?

Yes! We encourage all interested cities and neighborhoods to complete the outreach activities as WNV is spread all throughout LA county.

Can neighborhoods in cities other than the City of Los Angeles participate in Champions for WNV Prevention?

No. Due to its large geographic size and population, LAC DPH is offering participation in the challenge to individual neighborhoods only in the City of Los Angeles. Neighborhoods in other cities may participate through their respective cities.

Who should I contact to become involved?

City and neighborhood officials can reach out to acdvector@ph.lacounty.gov

Where can I receive more information on Champions for Prevention such as what outreach activities are to be completed?

Promotional activities are described on the Champions for Prevention reporting [form](#). City and neighborhood officials can also reach out to acdvector@ph.lacounty.gov

What is the digital toolkit?

A multimedia campaign [toolkit](#) has been developed and is accessible without charge. The toolkit is designed to make it easy to distribute information through anyone's social media, websites, and newsletters. The toolkit contains materials in English and Spanish including:

- Sample social media posts
- Web graphics
- Videos
- Campaign fliers and printer-friendly materials



How can a city/neighborhood request for presentations on WNV from LAC DPH?

A city/neighborhood can request for a speaker for general community audiences through LAC DPH's Speakers' Bureau. The presentation will provide an overview of WNV including risk factors for WNV, places where mosquitoes live, disease symptoms and prevention methods. To request a Speaker's Bureau presentation, please fill out the [Community Request Form](#). You can also email acdvector@ph.lacounty.gov to facilitate the request.

How will the completion of activities be monitored?

Completed promotional activities occurring from June through November should be documented on the Champions for Prevention challenge [form](#). Use the form to describe the event or action by name and/or location/site and the date or time it was completed. One event or action may accomplish more than one measure. For example, if flyers were distributed at tire recycling event, this will count towards 2 measures. Any activities occurring prior to joining the challenge can be documented retrospectively. Forms are to be submitted to acdvector@ph.lacounty.gov by December 1, 2018.

What are the participation dates of Champion for WNV Prevention?

The Champions for Prevention challenge runs from June through November. If a city or neighborhood conducted promotional activities prior to joining the challenge, you may retrospectively document them in the form.

Can a city do more than what is listed by LAC DPH?

Yes! All activities done to prevent the spread of WNV and other mosquito-borne diseases are encouraged. Complete as many activities as possible to promote awareness and prevention of mosquito-borne diseases in LAC. LAC DPH and Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will recognize cities that stand out for innovation and community engagement activities with special awards.

Why is it important to participate?

LAC is one of the highest risk areas for mosquito-borne disease outbreaks in the United States. Over the last 5 years, LAC has experienced yearly outbreaks of WNV with an average of 221 cases per year, approximately 10% of the national burden. Over three-fourths of cases are reported with neurological complications including paralysis, meningitis, encephalitis and death. Milder cases often remain unrecognized. Despite significant health risks, the practice of mosquito prevention behaviors is low among residents in the county. LAC DPH is committed to increase awareness of WNV and keep our residents healthy, safe and productive. Your partnership will provide vital support to spread this important health message and enhance mosquito-borne disease prevention in LAC.

For more information contact:

Acute Communicable Disease Control Program

Vectorborne Disease Unit

Direct: 213-240-7941

Fax: 213-482-4856

acdvector@ph.lacounty.gov

Web Pages:

Champion for WNV Prevention: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/WNVChallenge.htm>

Education and Media Toolkit: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/WNVMaterials.htm>

WNV Information: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/VectorWestNile.htm>

