



**Tuesday, May 11, 2004**

## **Article on West Nile eye-opening**

**By John E. Thomson, Ph.D.**

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Thanks for the article about West Nile disease in the Telegraph.

I must admit that I was astounded to move to El Dorado County and find that there was NO mosquito abatement or vector control in western El Dorado County.

I live in El Dorado Hills and we have plenty of mosquitoes. Now West Nile is coming. I see that Sacramento, Yolo, Placer and other counties have agencies to handle this threatened epidemic. I can't believe that El Dorado County has no mosquito control district here.

But a number of my neighbors and I moved to this county from Bay area counties that were, shall I say charitably, more "organized" than El Dorado County.

Oh well, what can one expect from a county that spends ten years and \$15 million on a new general plan and then decides "Oh, what the heck, let's just use the old general plan!"

Handy hints and timely tips from the county health officer on how to cope with West Nile disease is no replacement for an effective mosquito abatement district.

You could kill a lot of mosquitoes with \$15 million.