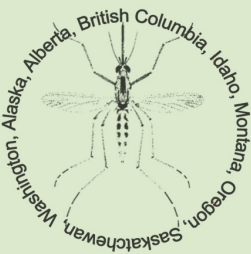




# Vector News

A Publication of the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association March, 2025



## Executive Director's Report

Hello all,

I hope everyone's off-season went well and that your batteries are recharged for another year. In Yakima County, 2024 was an easier year in comparison to previous years. Sites throughout the district that typically hold water were mostly dry which required far less pesticide applications. The same can be said for a lot of districts that I talked with and it'll be interesting to see what 2025 has in store for us. We have a couple great meetings set up for 2025. Preparing and planning the agenda for both meetings is going well and they're shaping up to be meetings well worth attending.

I've personally worked at four different districts during my career and one of the biggest things I've learned is that there is more than one way to skin a cat. By that I mean the challenges we face are different, there is no one right approach to mosquito control. As I said earlier, 2024 was easier than normal for us mainly due to lower river levels in our area. Snow melts and river levels are the main driving factors that determine how bad things are going to be in and around Yakima County. It seemed like every time the rivers got close to flooding, they receded in a quick enough manner to keep floodwater mosquito populations low. When I worked for the West Umatilla District, the main factor was flood irrigation. While there were some sites related to river levels, the man-made irrigation supply was going to be present no matter what the weather conditions were. In Portland, we had issues with the Columbia River early in the season and then permanent water sources were the main sites treated later in the year. My time in La Grande included a little of everything. While it's good to pick up tips and techniques from other districts, not everything that works for one program is going to work for you.

As I mentioned earlier, we have a couple meetings in 2025 that I am really looking forward to. The spring meeting will take place in Richland, WA on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. We are going to focus on training at this meeting. Though it may seem like we just did a meeting on training, it's actually been a while. We will look at training for seasonal workers, tips on applications and working in the field. We will have training on media and giving presentations to groups in the community and much more that you can utilize for your program's needs. Our fall meeting will take place in Eastern Idaho close to Yellowstone National Park. It should be a wonderful location, and last I heard Shawn is putting together a great agenda full of interesting speakers and is ahead of schedule.

Again, I hope everyone's off season went well and that your friends, family, and employees are happy and in good health. If you have any ideas or suggestions that you think would help our association or make our meetings better, please share. As always when your state reps ask you for contributions to the newsletter or help with a presentation, please do what you can to help them. Also, if you're interested in being a part of the executive committee please step up and let your state rep know. I look forward to seeing everyone at the meetings this year, travel safe and I hope everyone has a great season.

*Kelly Beehler,  
NWMVCA Executive Director*



Holiday Inn, Richland WA

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## President's Message

Dear Members,

As we approach the vibrant season of spring, it's a great time to reflect on the successes of the past year and prepare for the challenges ahead. The warmer months bring new opportunities for collaboration and innovation in mosquito control, as well as the inevitable surge in mosquito populations that we all work tirelessly to manage.

We are gearing up for another productive season and getting prepared to dive into the early season surveillance. The upcoming spring months will demand our expertise, creativity, and diligence, and I am confident that our collective efforts will make a meaningful difference.

I want to thank all the board members and state representatives and all of those involved in keeping this association going. It takes a group effort to make all the gears turn and I really appreciate all of the volunteered time and energy everyone puts into this.

Our spring meeting is rapidly approaching in Richland, Washington April 8th and 9th. Looking even further ahead, I am very excited for the Fall Meeting will take place in the beautiful Island Park, Idaho October 21st through October 23rd. This gathering will provide an excellent opportunity for all of us to share our experiences, discuss the latest advancements in mosquito control and decompress after the chaos the season will for sure contain. I will get the hotel link for reservations out as soon as they have it available.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to the cause, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Island Park this fall. Here's to a productive spring season and an even more successful gathering in the fall!

Warm regards,  
*Nikki Harris, NWMVCA President*



*Island Park, Idaho*

Chamber of Commerce website:

<https://islandparkchamber.org/>

PC: AllTrips, West Yellowstone

## AMCA North Pacific Director's Report

Dear Members,

The Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association stands out from all other regions regarding legislative and regulatory advocacy. Did you know the association supports one person from each state to travel to Washington, D.C., during the American Mosquito Control Association's annual Washington Conference? It is so important that the northwest is well represented because the key issues impact all NWMVCA members. It may seem inopportune to visit the Capitol, but it's actually the perfect time, because so many new members of Congress need to hear our message. This year, during the conference scheduled for May 12-14th in Alexandria, VA., discussion topics will include drone use, improved data sharing, removing NPDES permitting requirements, and the beneficial use of pesticides. But the real benefit you will receive by attending this year is we have expert messaging training scheduled that will help you communicate with everyone you encounter, at home and in D.C. This highly rated program is only available at the 2025 Washington Conference. No other messaging training is tailored specifically for mosquito control operators and the issues we are currently facing. It will be well worth the journey. Ask your state representative how you can get support for this special event.

If you would like to learn more about what the AMCA is working on, you can contact me with details of upcoming meetings throughout the northwest. I would love to come and tell you all about it.

AMCA legislative and regulatory advocacy is supported by sustaining members of the organization. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our sustaining members.

**AMCA** **RISE**  
THE AMERICAN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

# MESSAGE TRAINING

**May 13, 2025**  
**1:00-5:00 PM**

Elevate your advocacy with AMCA and RISE at the Washington Conference Message Training to become an expert in effective messaging and legislative engagement. Contact Angela Beehler at [angela@mosquitocontrol.org](mailto:angela@mosquitocontrol.org) for more information.

*Angela Beehler, AMCA North Pacific Director*

### Thank You to Our Sustaining Members!

Azelis  
Clarke  
Idaho Mosquito and Vector Control Association  
Leading Edge  
North Morrow Vector Control District

Target Specialty Products  
Three Rivers Mosquito & Vector Control  
Valent BioSciences  
Veseris  
West Umatilla Mosquito Control District

## **NWMVCA Officers**

President: Michael Nikki Harris  
President Elect: Shaun Calver  
Vice President: Matt Hutchinson  
Past President: Michael McKeague-Foster  
Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Law  
Executive Director: Kelly Beehler

## **NWMVCA Representatives**

Alaska: Vacant  
Alberta: Vacant  
British Columbia: Cheryl Phippen  
Idaho Rep: Chris Ocegueda  
Montana Rep: Jessica Bushnell  
Oregon Rep: Ken Carver  
Saskatchewan: Vacant  
Washington Rep: David Beus  
North Pacific AMCA Director: Angela Beehler  
Industry Rep: Samer Elkashef  
Trustee Rep: Doug Shinn  
Newsletter Editor: Cheyenne Keel  
Webmaster: Kevin Shoemaker

### **Spring Workshop Speakers Needed!**

The NWMVCA is in need of speakers for April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. If any of you would be interested in presenting or know of someone who would be a good fit, please reach out. Some of the topics we are looking to cover are: fogger calibration & maintenance, drone calibration & maintenance, backpack sprayer calibration & maintenance, spill management/PPE, surveillance, and resistance testing.

If anybody has any other topics they would like to present on or would like to see someone present on, please let me know. My email is [bvcd@thegeo.net](mailto:bvcd@thegeo.net).

Matt Hutchinson, *District Manager, Baker Valley Vector Control District*

## 2025 NWMVCA Spring Workshop in Richland, WA April 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> at Holiday Inn, Richland on the River



Join us for our annual Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association's Spring Workshop! The workshop will take place April 8th & 9th at the Holiday Inn, Richland on the River.

Address: 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA 99352  
Hotel Phone #: (509) 946-7611

Agenda: To Be Determined, we need speakers! If interested or if you have an idea for one contact Matt Hutchinson at [bvvc@thegeo.net](mailto:bvvc@thegeo.net)

Schedule:

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>— Full day of presentations.

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>— Half day of presentations.

Each individual guest must make their own reservations by calling (509) 946-7611 before 3/18/2025 and identifying themselves as members of the Group (i.e., the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association).

Room Rates: Standard room rates for a single King or Two Queen beds is \$160.00 plus tax. All rooms include breakfast and onsite parking.

## State and Providence Reports

### Idaho

Spring snow in Idaho, while beautiful we know that brings with it additional breeding areas for our mosquito nemesis. Rain and saturated ground followed up with warmer temperatures lead to flooding and failed culverts, closing roads in Gem County. DOT reporting Hwy closures in Malheur County, and Idaho Highway 21 remains “closed until further notice,” because of a major avalanche risk, more than 23 avalanches hit the road, with depths ranging from 5’ to over 50’! Canyon County MAD is getting ready for this expected volume of water by increasing our drone operations with an additional drone for field operations and a new laboratory for PCR lab work and the implementation of DropVision, a new tool in the arsenal. With last season being mild, if 7 Counties reporting WNV-positive mosquito pools and two people getting neuroinvasive WNV is considered mild, Idaho is preparing for a busy season. Unseasonably warm weather will lead to an early emergence of mosquitoes in Idaho, which will result in a surge in calls for Districts. Canyon County is currently looking for office staff to help alleviate this expected increase in service requests. Residential growth doesn’t seem to be slowing down and with that the opportunity to educate many new residents is expected to increase.

Desiree, Deputy Director of Ada Co and IMVCA President,  
Hello NW Members! The IMVCA will be doing our annual Spring Workshop on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Twin Falls, Idaho this year! We will be covering various IMM topics, including a hands-on make and take activity for districts to bring back to their programs for use. Please check our website for more current information, [www.idmvca.net](http://www.idmvca.net) and registration information (agenda to be posted shortly). Thank you and we look forward to less snow, spring and hopefully seeing some of you soon!

#### News from Ada County:

It looks like after a cold, dry winter, we are starting to see snow and rain in the new year in Ada County. Our local watershed reservoirs are at 65%, which is to be expected with more spring snow/rain coming. We are also expecting to have 65% of the seasonal staff returning (so far) this year to help. Unfortunately for us, but also exciting for our long-time mosquito Adulticide Crew Lead, Charlie McNiel, will be retiring this spring! Charlie has been a great asset to our crews for over 20 years, he is a team player, works hard to provide great service to the residents, can fab anything, and wants to help whenever he can. Charlie will be thoroughly missed but we are happy for him in his retirement era and hope he enjoys spending time with his family and hunting! We will be hiring a new full-time adulticide crew leader this spring, and the position will be opening soon! Reach out to Desiree for more information if interested. ~Desiree Keeney, Deputy Director, ACWPM

*Chris Ocegueda, Idaho State Rep, NWMVCA*

## Montana

Montana is holding three spring workshops.

The MMVCA is holding its annual spring workshop May 28th at the Cascade County Public Works Building.

The eastern half of Montana has two opportunities hosted by Van Diest in Miles City, MT Wednesday April 29 and Glasgow, MT Thursday April 30.

If you need any information on these trainings, please reach out to Jessica Bushnell at [brweed@broadwatercountymt.gov](mailto:brweed@broadwatercountymt.gov).

*Jessica Bushnell, Montana State Rep, NWMVCA*

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## Oregon

In 2024, Oregon mosquito control agencies reported a total of 21 positive mosquito pools, 0 infected horses, and 0 human cases of WNV. The majority of the WNV activity occurred in Malheur County, which had 8 positive mosquito pools. Other counties with WNV activity were Umatilla County (1 mosquito pools), Baker County (3 mosquito pools), Morrow County (4 mosquito pools), and Jackson County (5 mosquito pools). For a complete overview of WNV activity within Oregon, along with past year State reports you can review this information on our state website ([https:// www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/WESTNILEVIRUS/Pages/survey.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/WESTNILEVIRUS/Pages/survey.aspx)).

The Oregon Mosquito and Vector Control Association formed a committee at our 2024 fall meeting which was tasked with creating an invasive aedes mosquito detection and control protocols. Andrew Partin, vector ecologist for Jackson County is leading the project. The foundation of the plan has been taken from California's aedes response protocols and the committee members will present the recommend procedures to the Oregon association this spring.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, responsible for managing water quality permits, is rolling out a new platform for all end users of NPDES permits. Starting April 16, 2025, all NPDES general permits will be required to use this new online tool for the following features: submit applications, submit required reports, pay invoices and access records. Therefore all mosquito agencies in Oregon will have the pleasure of learning this new system at the beginning of spring.

The Oregon mosquito and vector control association will hold our annual spring business meeting in April. Current date and location will be determined later; however, the plan is to have the business meeting alongside the northwest regional meeting. More details to come.

*Kenny Carver, Oregon State Rep, NWMVCA*

## Washington

Hello to everyone from Washington State. Winter seems to be releasing its grip and the mosquito season is not as far off as it has felt for the last little while. I don't have much to report, we did have a great Drone Conference in Pasco back in January. I'm grateful to all those who helped put that on, it was very informative. One thing that I do want to report on is Senate Bill 5302 in Washington, which is currently in committee. A lot of us are using drones regularly and this Bill has the potential to affect what we do. In summary, here are some of the components of this Bill as it is currently written:

1. No state or local agency shall purchase or acquire any small unmanned aircraft systems from certain foreign countries, specifically China or Russia. As many other bills around the country have proposed, this targets DJI made drones which are very cheap and effective.
2. As of July 1, 2026, it would be illegal not only to purchase one of these drones, but even to operate one that you already owned. This takes the ban to a completely new level, as other proposals typically disallow the purchase of new foreign drones but don't touch the ones we already own and operate.
3. These regulations apply to "small drones" weighing under 55 pounds **including** the weight of anything attached.

This Bill mentions law enforcement agencies specifically and, as usual, doesn't seem to consider other public agencies, such as Mosquito Control Districts. It would be good for our representatives to hear from us to know of our concerns. Thank you to Angela Beehler and Kevin Shoemaker for bringing this to my attention to include in this entry.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Workshop in April. Hopefully everyone is finding the seasonal help that is needed each year. In Adams County we have not had an excess of applicants over the last few years, but have had just enough. This year I've had over double the applicants and I hope that bodes well for the future and is something that all of you see as well.

*David Beus, Washington State Rep, NWMVCA*

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## 4th Annual Drone Roundtable

The Drone Roundtable Conference (DRC) was created in 2021 by Franklin County Mosquito Control District as a collaborative effort to bring together neighboring mosquito control districts who were either interested in, or actively utilizing, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS, or commonly referred to as "drones") in their operations to explore ideas and share knowledge using this novel tool in mosquito control.

Just as drone technology itself has developed since 2021, the DRC continues to increase each year in its success. Its most recent assembly consisted of 62 attendees from six different states and Canada, 16 speakers from both mosquito and non-mosquito related fields, and informative roundtable discussions to conclude each conference day. Speakers included representatives from entities such as the AMCA, Department of Agriculture, and the FAA, all of whom presented critical information regarding new legislature, industry standards, and available resources that help mosquito control districts ensure the safe and legal use of drones in their operations.

Now a sponsored affiliate of the NWMVCA, the DRC remains an annual staple that continues to grow while maintaining its original goal: to serve as a communal event focused on optimizing the implementation of drones in mosquito control operations and removing the mystique surrounding them so that any district can incorporate these powerful tools into their operation. Please join us at the next DRC in Pasco, WA in early January 2026. Talk with experts, ask questions, gain knowledge, and earn state-approved CEU's while you're at it!

Thanks all,  
*Maddie Azevedo*



## Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association 2025 Spring Workshop Registration Form

**April 8th-9th, 2025**

**Holiday Inn Richland on the River**

802 George Washington Way  
Richland, WA 99352

Please use one form per registrant. Make copies if needed.

Name	Company		
Address	City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email address		

	Member Fee	Non-Member Fee	
<b>Tuesday, April 8 &amp; Wednesday, April 9, 2025</b> • <i>Breaks, and evening networking event included</i>	\$40	\$60	\$ _____
Late Registration Fee (after March 28th, 2025)	\$10	\$10	\$ _____
2025 Membership Renewal (Based on a calendar year)	\$50		\$ _____
2025 Sustaining Membership (Based on a calendar year)	\$250		\$ _____
<i><b>Refund Policy:</b></i> <i>Registration fees will not be refunded unless a request is made prior to March 28, 2025</i>			<b>Total:</b> \$ _____
_____ Payment Enclosed	_____ Bill Me (send invoice)	_____ Will Pay at the Door (check or charge)	

**Please return this form and make checks payable (IN US DOLLARS) to:**

**Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association (NWMVCA)  
c/o Chris Law**

PO Box 2943 – La Grande, OR 97850

Phone: 541-963-2974 or email [nw\\_mvca@gmail.com](mailto:nw_mvca@gmail.com)

**Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association  
2025 Spring Workshop VENDOR Registration Form**

**Holiday Inn Richland on the River  
802 George Washington Way  
Richland, WA 99352**

**April 8th-9th, 2025**

Please use one form per registrant. Make copies if needed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Email address

	Member Fee	Non-Member Fee	
<b>Tuesday, April 8 &amp; Wednesday, April 9, 2024</b> • Breaks, and evening networking event included	\$40	\$60	\$ _____
Sponsorship Level: _____ (Platinum \$800, Gold \$600, Silver \$400)	\$ _____		\$ _____
2025 Sustaining Membership Renewal (Based on a calendar year)	\$250		\$ _____
2025 Regular Membership (Based on a calendar year)	\$50		\$ _____
<b>Refund Policy:</b> <i>Registration fees will not be refunded unless a request is made prior to March 28, 2025</i>			<b>Total:</b> \$ _____
_____ Payment Enclosed	_____ Bill Me (send invoice)	_____ Will Pay at the Door (check or charge)	

**Please return this form and make checks payable (IN US DOLLARS) to:**  
**Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association (NWMVCA)**  
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**P.O. Box 2943 – La Grande, OR 97850**  
**Phone: 541-963-2974 or email nwmvca@gmail.com**