

SERVICES

Tahoe Basin Area Mosquito and Vector Control Districts provide year-round services to the Lake Tahoe Basin through comprehensive Integrated Pest Management programs including surveillance, control and public education. Districts also work closely with community, public service, and planning agencies to prevent the unintended creation of potential vector habitats. Area technicians promptly respond to requests for service, conduct on-site inspections and provide information about vectors including mosquitoes, ticks, yellowjackets and rodents.

The Lake Tahoe Basin is protected from mosquito and vector-transmitted diseases by the following organizations. For inquiries or to request service, please call the agency listed for your area.

CALIFORNIA

Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District

2021 Opportunity Drive
Roseville, CA 95678
(888) 768-2343 Toll Free
www.placermosquito.org

El Dorado County Vector Control District

South Lake Tahoe Office

3368 Lake Tahoe Blvd., #303
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
(530) 573-3450
www.edcgov.us/VectorControl/

Nevada County Department of Environmental Health

950 Maidu Avenue, Suite #170
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530) 265-1787
www.mynevadacounty.com/Pages/home.aspx

CDPH – California Department of Public Health, Vector-Borne Disease Section

1616 Capitol Avenue, MS 7307
P.O. Box 997377
Sacramento, CA 95899-7377
(916) 552-9730
www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/vbds

NEVADA

Douglas County

Mosquito Abatement Program

1134 Airport Rd.
Minden, NV 89423
(775) 782-4642
kjenkins@co.douglas.nv.us

Washoe County Health District

Vector-Borne Diseases Prevention Program

1001 E. 9th Street, Building B
Reno, NV 89512
(775) 785-4599
www.washoecounty.us/health

Nevada State Health Division

4150 Technology Way
Carson City, NV 89706
(775) 684-4200
www.health.nv.gov

Contact your local organization for more information or materials on vector-borne disease prevention and control

Practice the **Ds** of protection from biting pests:

1. **DRAIN** any standing water that may produce mosquitoes.
2. **DEFEND** yourself against mosquitoes and other biting insects by using an effective insect repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535 or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Make sure you follow label directions!
3. **DRESS** to protect skin by wearing long sleeves and long pants.
4. **DISCOURAGE** insect and rodent pests from entering your home by keeping window and door screens in good condition and sealing any potential rodent entry points.

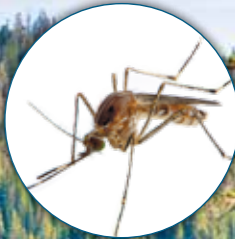
Contact your **District, County, or State Agency** for help.

Mosquito, tick, and rat images on the cover are courtesy of Orange County Vector Control District. Yellowjacket cover image by Sean McCann.



AVOID BITING PESTS IN THE TAHOE BASIN

TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM PESTS AROUND THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN



Enjoy and be safe at Lake Tahoe all year around!

SPRING



Snowmelt mosquitoes are a big nuisance in the spring. Here are some ways to manage this vector:

- Inspect pools of water formed from melted snow for mosquito larvae and report areas where adult mosquitoes and larvae are found as soon as possible.
- Wear repellent and protective clothing (long-sleeved shirts and long pants).
- Repair and maintain screens on your doors and windows.



Diseases transmitted by rodents can also be a threat since many dwellings that are vacant during the winter may have become habitat for disease-carrying rodents. Here are some ways to avoid getting infected with rodent-transmitted disease:

- Inspect dwellings for rodent infestations.
- DO NOT sweep or vacuum areas where rodent droppings or nests are found.
- Clean areas contaminated by rodents by airing out and wet-mopping with freshly made 10% bleach solution or commercial disinfectant solution, while wearing a dust mask, rubber gloves and eye protection.

What is a vector?

A vector is an insect or any other animal capable of transmitting a disease or causing harm to people or animals.



SUMMER



In the summer, mosquitoes can potentially transmit disease. To manage summer mosquitoes, take the following measures:

- Eliminate any standing water sources by dumping or draining.
- Wear repellent, long sleeves, and long pants. Avoid products that are a combination of sunscreen and repellent. Purchase separate products and reapply following label instructions.
- Report any mosquito issues to your local vector control agency.

Yellowjackets can be a problem because they commonly nest and forage for food close to people. Here's what you can do to prevent yellowjacket problems:

- When dining outdoors, cover food and beverages to discourage yellowjackets.
- Keep garbage cans closed with tight-fitting lids and rinse bottles and cans before placing in covered recycling bins.
- Avoid areas where you see yellowjackets, and DO NOT disturb their nests.

Tick-borne Relapsing Fever (TBRF), plague, and hantavirus are all diseases associated with rodents and are most common in summer and fall, but can occur year-round. Here are some guidelines to prevent some of these diseases:

- Prevent rodent infestations in dwellings, and inspect dwellings for infestations.
- Report sick or dying rodents and avoid contact.
- Do not allow pets to come into contact with rodents.
- Do not sleep on the floor. (Prevents TBRF)
- Avoid direct contact between bed/bedding and walls. (Prevents TBRF)



FALL



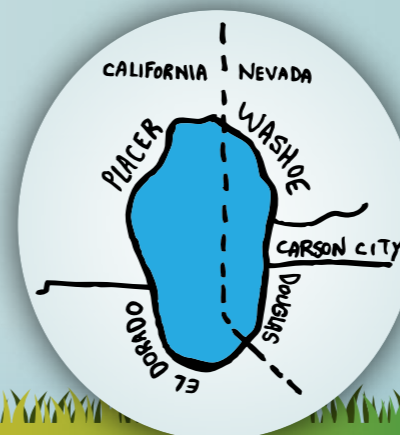
Rodents are still quite active in the fall, and can transmit diseases.

- Discourage rodents from around homes and other inhabited areas. Remove or prevent rodent access to any source of food or shelter.
- Do not feed rodents, including squirrels and chipmunks, in campgrounds or picnic areas.
- Look for holes or gaps inside and outside the dwelling and close all holes larger than ¼ inch with screens and/or expanding foam sealant to prevent nesting rodents in the winter.
- Seal any potential entry points for rodents that are larger than ¼ inch across with cement, wire screening, hardware cloth, steel wool, or copper mesh material.

Mosquitoes and yellowjackets may still be active.

- Employ protective measures against mosquitoes by using a CDC-recommended repellent, such as those that contain DEET or Picaridin, or wearing long sleeves and long pants.
- Yellowjackets may still be in search of food. Cover potential food sources and avoid nests.

Tahoe Basin Area



WINTER



While ticks are not a winter risk in the Tahoe Basin, they are common in the Sierra foothills (generally below 4,000 ft elevation) surrounding the Tahoe region.

- When hiking in lower elevations, wear repellent containing at least 20% DEET and light-colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Perform tick checks while in tick habitat and for several days after leaving tick habitat. If you find a tick crawling on you, remove it right away.
- Bathe or shower as soon as possible upon leaving tick habitat.

Nesting rodents can pose a health risk in the winter.

- Inspect dwelling for signs of rodents, such as live or dead mice, nests, droppings, urine stains, and gnaw marks.
- Seal any potential entry point for rodents that are larger than ¼ inch across with cement, wire screening, hardware cloth, steel wool, or copper mesh material.

