



New Proposed Eye Gnat Program and Ordinance: Public Comments Due February 10, 2012 by 5:00 p.m.

To: Interested Parties Regarding Eye Gnats,

You are receiving this notification because of your interest in eye gnat and organic farming issues in San Diego County.

On November 9, 2011 at the request of Supervisor Jacob and Supervisor Slater-Price, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Farm Bureau and other interested parties and return with recommendations outlining a “tougher strategy” to lessen the adverse community impact of eye gnats caused by local organic farming operations and develop options for consideration by the Board of Supervisors. The Departments of Environmental Health; Agriculture, Weights and Measures; and Farm and Home Advisor coordinated with the San Diego County Farm Bureau and other interested persons to develop a County program to address eye gnat nuisances. An Eye Gnat Intervention Working Group (EGIWG) was assembled which included organic farmers, Farm Bureau representatives and affected community members.

Click on the following links to find copies of the proposed documents:

- [*San Diego County Code of the Regulatory Ordinances Relating To Vector Control*](#) (Ordinance)
- [*Department of Environmental Health Report to the Board of Supervisors and the Community on Eye Gnat Intervention Options and a Recommended Program*](#) (Report)
- [*Proposed Eye Gnat Program Flow Chart*](#)
- [*Eye Gnat Frequently Asked Questions*](#) (FAQ's)
- County of San Diego Vector Control Program's website at: www.SDVector.com

We recommend that you read the Report first. This will provide a better understanding of the proposed eye gnat program and the EGIWG decisions and recommendations and the discussions behind them. The proposed ordinance has two parts—amendments to Chapter 2 to bring eye gnats into the County Vector Control Program, and a new Chapter 4 to provide special protections for organic farming.

The Department of Environmental Health will be accepting written comments on these documents until 5:00 pm on February 10, 2012. Comments received will be included with the Report and Proposed Ordinance to be heard by the Board of Supervisors on February 29, 2012.

To submit written comments regarding the proposed Eye Gnat Ordinance and/or Report, please submit your comments by February 10, 2012 to:

Email: vector@sdcounty.ca.gov

Fax: (858) 571-4268

US Mail:

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