

HCED 05/12

GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

12545 Florence Avenue, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
Office (562) 944-9656 Fax (562) 944-7976
Email- info@glacvcd.org Website: www.glacvcd.org

2012 OCT 11 A 8:13
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September 11, 2012

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Mr. Jim McGowan, Executive Director
California Building Standards Commission
Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Comments on the 2013 California Plumbing Code

Dear Mr. McGowan:

The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (District) wishes to provide comments and support with regards to the notice of proposed action amending building standards of the Department of Housing and Community Development regarding the 2013 California Plumbing Code, California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 5, which amends and adds language to protect the public from mosquitoes, rodents, and other potential vectors of disease:

Gray water-

1602.9.2 Animals and Insects. *Gray water tank openings shall be protected to prevent the entrance of insects, birds, or rodents into the tank and piping systems. Screens installed on vent pipes, inlets, and overflow pipes shall have an aperture of not greater than 1/16 of an inch (1.6mm) and shall be close fitting.*

Rainwater-

1702.9.5.6(A) Animals and Insects. *Rainwater tank openings shall be protected to prevent the entrance of insects, birds, or rodents into the tank and piping systems. Screens installed on vent pipes, inlets, and overflow pipes shall have an aperture of not greater than 1/16 of an inch (1.6mm) and shall be close fitting.*

The District supports the Rainwater Capture Act and other efforts to reduce the need and dependency of California's water supply, especially reusing water that otherwise would have been lost. **However, without the added amendments listed above, thousands of potential mosquito-breeding sites could be installed. Every unscreened rainwater/gray water capture device has the possibility of producing hundreds of thousands if not millions of mosquitoes.** The primary vector of West Nile virus prefers to breed in man-made containers such as these. It is expected that if installed without the screens listed above, these containers would create a significant public health nuisance and very possibly a public health threat.

A CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY

PROMOTING COMMUNITY HEALTH, COMFORT AND WELFARE THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIVE VECTOR CONTROL SINCE 1952

Thank you for your consideration and this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Kenneth L. Bayless
General Manager

