

# SENDING SCHOOL MOSQUITOES PACKING

RICH KRAVETZ RELIES ON CATCHMASTER PRODUCTS TO PROTECT MORE THAN 30,000 STUDENTS

Since 2018, Rich Kravetz has been working at the Anaheim Union School District in California to keep pests at bay. He was hired right after Asian tiger mosquitoes (*Aedes albopictus*) became the No. 1 complaint of students and teachers in the district. The main concern for the school was using chemicals around the children, but Kravetz had a brand he trusted: Catchmaster.

“When we began trying to make everything as safe as possible for the students and teachers, we used Catchmaster’s Ovi-Catch AGO mosquito traps and Final Feed,” Kravetz says. “We noticed a decrease in the Asian tiger mosquito population, and the level of comfort increased for our schools.”

Some days feel like more of a challenge for Kravetz than others, just based on the sheer amount of people he is responsible for protecting against pests.



Rich Kravetz

With nine junior high schools, nine high schools, two special needs schools and a district office to take care of, Kravetz has a lot on his plate. But thanks to Catchmaster and the Ovi-Catch AGO mosquito traps paired with Final Feed, he says, that stress has become a thing of the past.

“With mosquitoes, protection is a physical and psychological thing. If someone says there are pests on the school site, then everyone thinks they are there, even if they aren’t,” Kravetz explains. “People originally were concerned about where I was placing the Ovi-Catch traps, but as soon as they heard about how they work in conjunction with the lifecycle of the mosquito, they feel much better knowing the traps do most of the work after they’re gone.”

**BECAUSE MANY OF THESE STUDENTS HAVE COMPROMISED OR SENSITIVE IMMUNE SYSTEMS, HAVING A PRODUCT THAT IS AS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AS THIS IS, AND TO HAVE IT ACTUALLY WORK, IS A TOTAL GAME-CHANGER.**



Some locations pose more of a problem for Kravetz, as they have more traffic than others. One location, a district office, has an ATM outside, which causes more people than normal to be in that area. Because it is located in an area with a lot of mature trees, this has caused more than the normal level of complaints.

“The mosquitoes favor this area because of the shade, and I’ve had many complaints about people going to the ATM and just being attacked by mosquitoes,” Kravetz explains. “We were able to double up the amount of Ovi-Catch AGO traps there, and hit that area extra-hard with Final Feed. It has been a couple years since we began that strategy, keeping up with the maintenance, and so far, I haven’t had nearly the same amount of complaints.”

For both parents and faculty, they have a new peace of mind when it comes to the schools. Final Feeds’ special formula of fruit juice, sugars and microencapsulated garlic means the adults feel better and the children feel comfortable about being around it.

“I’ve had nothing but positive feedback since I’ve used them at my schools,” Kravetz says. “because many of these students have compromised or sensitive immune systems, having a product that is as environmentally friendly as this is, and to have it actually work, is a total game-changer.”

Kravetz points out that beyond the product efficacy, he is pleased with the support he receives from the Catchmaster team.

“Their reps just want to help you with any issue. They’ll come out to the site to see where the products are, and offer advice on how to better handle the infestations,” he says.

