

LEE COUNTY MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



Newsletter

October, 2009

News & Happenings at LCM/HCD:

Shelly R. presented an overview of our mosquito control program to the Sunshine Rotary Club at the Hilton Garden. A large group of residents from Shell Point Village visited our District. Valerie Alker, of WGPU Radio, prepared a story titled "Mosquito Control Woes" and covered Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties. The story ran on Aug. 7th and is available online. Four employees were sent to Level V Incident Commander annual refresher training. Hand Sanitizers are in place and Shelly and Brian are working on locating AED's (automated external defibrillators). Our district was represented at the County ESF-17th meeting at EOC. ESF-17 stands for Emergency Support Function and Section 17 covers animals and mosquito control issues. The Aquatic Systems/Mosquito Education Program personnel are reviewing and updating class materials for the new year. Courtney and Brian reported to work at the school district on August 17th. Sept. 10th, an Online Forum for Emergency Training, will start at 1:00 p.m. Eastern DT.

Our District provided Fred Schilffarth, the Director of Homeless Services—Community Cooperative Ministries Incorporated,—multiple cases of mosquito repellent. The repellent was the last of the supply from Hurricane Charlie.

A student at FGCU, Bill Mack, is writing a paper on the history of Lee County Mosquito Control. Carmen has lent his conference room to hold the many books and news clippings written about us over the years, along with every historical info piece we can find. Carmen and Shelly have come up with a ton of information going back to the start of our district. We will be very interested to see his final project.



As mentioned in our September's Newsletter, *The Malaria Project*, Courtney Satkoski, has received an autographed congratulatory picture from former President Jimmy Carter along with a letter of commendation regarding this project. The Carter Center's Program Development Coordinator, Randy Slaven, also enclosed congratulations to Neil Wilkinson regarding his *Colloquium* study course at FGCU.



Commissioner Joe Burgess gets a first-hand exposure of LCHCD operations with Keith Andreu and Ken Sonne.

USA EPA WEBCAST—Wednesday, October 7th. 1—3 pm. Topics: NPDES Requirements for discharges from the application of pesticides, Notice of Intent (NOI) for obtaining permits, etc. Shelly is trying to get 2 CEU's.

FIELD ACTIVITY — 2009

ACRES TREATED	GROUND ADULTICIDING	AERIAL ADULTICIDING	GROUND LARVICIDING	AERIAL LARVICIDING	SERVICE REQUESTS
January	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	24.0
February	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
March	116.7	0.0	1.5	388.0	9.0
April	4,284.0	0.0	6.7	899.7	55.0
May	34,232.3	12,697.7	67.2	7,011.6	156.0
June	58,174.4	7,335.9	193.3	20,667.2	788.0
July	92,689.4	237,873.9	257.5	8,519.1	835.0
August	86,887.2	320,933.8	339.2	28,606.9	529.0
September					451.0
October					

JON HORNBY'S MESSAGE FROM MSCI: A dedication to excellence by all of LCMCD has enabled Mosquito Control/Scientific Intelligences (MSCI) to be successful in implementing several changes. This year, the Ground Adulticide fleet has a new clean and uniform look. All the 1970's vintage air-blast ULV machines were replaced with new London fogger XKE ULV units. The new units use an air-assist nozzle which requires less air volume. They are quieter and less disturbing to the public and the driver. These nozzles produce a narrower range of drop diameters at the most efficient size for controlling adult mosquitoes. Thus, we have more drops in the size we want. Many thanks to the people who 'get-it-right.'

The Aerial Larvicide pilots have the pleasure of working with GPS Spray Application Guidance in all larvicide ships and all aerial larviciding activities for post-mission review. The GPS systems pinpoint where the pilot sprayed and stopped spraying so he can return with the next load and begin exactly where he left off. The District can demonstrate when and where material was delivered. These GPS guidance systems have many features which can improve the precision in delivery of material to the target. However, implementation of those features requires training and a desire 'to-get-it' right. I commend and thank the pilots for persevering to 'get-it-right.' Of course, these new spray guidance and tracking systems cannot function without the engineering ingenuity of the Aircraft and Aerial Systems Section. GPS antenna placement, spray activation pressure switches, wiring, mounting brackets, light bar placement, etc., all are included in designing the installation of this little box that assists the pilot as to where and when to spray. Many thanks go out to the members of this section. With these GPS spray guidance and tracking systems, our Aerial Inspectors who decide where treatment is needed, have had the benefit of knowing exactly where their pilot did spray. However, with every Blessing comes additional responsibility. The inspectors have had to plan ahead on larvicide missions and provide the pilot a list of predefined zones within which treatment is to occur. Many thanks to the Aerial Larvicide team for their cooperation and their desire to 'get-it-right.'

Jim Burgess' surveillance team has taken on a project of evaluating hourly host-seeking flight patterns of our early and late summer mosquito species. The early results of this study have revealed that 90% of host-seeking occurs between dark and midnight for at least three (3) of our most important species. The Mosquito Control Section acted on these findings by adjusting aerial adulticide mission times to between 9:30 p.m. and midnight for all missions when possible. Many thanks go to Jim's group for showing us how to 'get-it-right.'

In the area of aerial adulticide, a new Aerial Adulticide Treatment Platform is under evaluation. This is the Bell 407 Helicopter for delivering adulticides at night. This system is the product of a joint effort of the Aircraft and Aerial Vehicle Systems department and Gene Sutton. The spray system consists of a 60 gallon Dibrom payload delivered through electric rotary nozzles from an altitude of 150 ft. at 100 knots. This platform fulfills an aerial adulticide niche of night Dibrom missions over small to large islands and where treatment restrictions result in missions with narrow and complex boundaries. This platform allows LCMCD to get-it-right. Many thanks go to those who have worked to 'get-it-right.'

The last two (2) years have seen many changes in equipment and modifications of procedures in an effort to become more current and efficient in our control and surveillance practices. A BIG thank you to everyone who make LCMCD the Mosquito Control District that does 'get-it-right.'