Seminole County Mosquito Control Program

Mosquito Control 101

Address: 200 West County Home Road, Sanford, FL 32773
Phone: 407-665-5542
Fax: 407-665-5600
Email: mosquito@seminolecountyfl.gov
What We Do

Protect the health and well-being of citizens through the prevention and control of mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases.

Control mosquito populations to a tolerable level in the safest manner by using a variety of methods to minimize potential effects on people, wildlife, and the environment.
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

• Manage mosquito populations by means of integrated programs designed to have minimal adverse effects on people, wildlife, and the environment

• Basic Principles:
  • Source reduction
  • Larviciding
  • Surveillance
  • Targeted adulticiding (fogging)
  • Public education
Source Reduction

• Remove or eliminate sources that are breeding mosquitoes or have the potential to breed mosquitoes
  • Drain Water
    • Community-wide surveys and distribution of educational materials
    • Conduct door-to-door inspections
  • Tire Removal
    • Tire Amnesty Days
  • Green Pools
Larval Mosquito Control (Larviciding)

- Conducted year round to control immature mosquitoes (larvae) as part of the IPM approach
  - Efficient and cost effective control measure for mosquitoes because mosquito larvae are in concentrated areas where treatment can be focused
  - “Greener” products used: SCMC uses bacteria (Bti), growth inhibitors (Methoprene), and surface film oils (COCOBEAR™) larvicides in its program
Larviciding Activity

- Larviciding is primary activity

- Map of larviciding activity in last 30 days (updated weekly on our website)
Adult Mosquito Control (Adulticiding)

- Hand portable foggers
- Ultra Low Volume (ULV), aerosol sprayer, also known as fogging
  - Ground fogging with truck mounted units
  - Applied late evenings/early mornings to avoid people, animals, bees, and butterflies
- ULV treatments can also be conducted by air using a low flying airplane (Last done 2016, 2011, and 2009 in Seminole County)
Ground Fogging Activity

Ground Fogging is last resort!

- Map on website shows streets and surrounding areas that will be treated by ULV spray trucks, weather permitting.

- Scheduled Spray Zones are highlighted. Click on a highlighted zone to find more information.
Reverse 911 and/or a No Spray Requests

Reverse 911

- Call or email the request to Seminole County Mosquito Control office and include your name, address, and at least 1 phone number that you wish to receive automated notification of fogging in your zone
- Fogging missions are laid out by fog zone but we do not necessarily fog the entire zone
- It is possible to receive notification even though your street isn’t part of the fogging mission
- Notifications go out for fogging within the next 48 hours (not time or street specific)
- Fogging is conducted, weather permitting

No Spray Request

- Call or email the request to Seminole County Mosquito Control office and include your name and No Spray address
- Keep in mind, it is a request
- Fogger is turned off as truck passes the ‘No Spray’ address UNLESS we are fogging for disease response
- If you are a beekeeper, please register with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and keep hives at least 150 feet from road
Aerial Spray

- In the event of aerial spray- all beekeepers registered with us or listed in the FDACS registry will receive a personal phone call/message to notify of event
- Very important to keep your contact information with us current
- Additional notifications are conducted through social media outlets, media sources, and R911 system within the targeted area
- Aerial services are very rare and are conducted to reduce/eliminate the threat of mosquito-borne diseases or in response to human disease
Mosquito Service Request

• We rely on service requests from residents to assist where to focus our efforts
  • Call, email, or submit requests online
• Once we receive a service request, we send out a trained technician to inspect and treat as necessary
  • You may also receive a call requesting more information
• Requests can be anonymous!
Call: 407-665-5542
Email: mosquito@seminolecountyfl.gov
Website: www.seminolecountyfl.gov/mosquito
Mosquito Surveillance

- BG Sentinel Trap (adult mosquito collections)
- CDC light trap with CO2 (adult mosquito collections)
- Ovitraps (mosquito egg collections)
- Sentinel Chickens
- All traps are marked with the SCMC address and phone number. Not bombs!
Mosquito Surveillance
Sentinel Chicken Program

- Chicken flocks are placed throughout Seminole County
- Weekly blood samples are collected and sent to the State lab
- A positive chicken is proof of current, local transmission of a mosquito transmitted disease such as West Nile Virus or Eastern Equine Encephalitis from the wild migrating bird population
- We utilize chickens for surveillance because they are able to process mosquito transmitted diseases without impact to their health yet unable to pass the diseases to other birds, animals or people. They are considered a dead-end host.
Public Health

Provide a countywide, consolidated means for preventing the transmission of Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya, West Nile Virus, Encephalitis and other mosquito borne diseases.
Florida Arbovirus Report is Available

- Arbovirus report is updated weekly by the Department of Health
- County by county totals for all of Florida
- Includes arboviral activity for human cases, sentinel chickens, veterinary cases, mosquito pool reports, dead bird counts by FWC, and maps
- The current Florida Arbovirus Report can be accessed through our mosquito control webpage
Bats and Mosquito Control

• Bats can eat up to 1,000 mosquitoes an hour (if mosquitoes are the only insect available!). Studies have found that mosquitoes make up less than 1 percent of bat diets. Moths and beetles are much more juicy.

• Bats alone will not kill enough mosquitoes to solve the problem.

• Bats are not the answer to prevent Zika.
  • *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes that can transmit disease are active during the day, not at night when bats are hunting

• You can build a bat house but you can’t make bats live in it
Mosquito Control and Beekeepers

• Seminole County Mosquito Control has a great relationship with our local beekeepers
• Communication through Seminole County Beekeepers Association
• Don’t forget to register your hives with FDACS
• Truck fogging is conducted in either late evening and/or early morning hours to avoid people, animals, bees, and butterflies
  • Call or email us to request Reverse 911 notification or to request No Spray for your hive address
  • Keep hives at least 150 feet from roadway
• ULV treatments by low flying airplane are very rare (Last done 2016, 2011, and 2009 in Seminole County)
Public Education

Outreach programs to educate the public regarding mosquito control and what the public can do to protect themselves around their property to help eliminate mosquitoes. Don’t be afraid to call us!

- Social Media
- Facebook
- Website
- Digital boards
- Outreach Events

- Garden Shows (bromeliad sales events)
- Billboards
- Parks/Library/County Buildings
- Community Events/Meetings
- School Presentations