ANNUAL REPORT 2017





OUR MISSION REFLECTS COMMITMENT TO THE DISTRICT'S RESIDENTS

THE MISSION OF THE COLLIER MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT (THE DISTRICT) IS TO PROVIDE VALUABLE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH SUPPRESSION OF BOTH DISEASE CARRYING AND PESTIFEROUS MOSQUITO POPULATIONS BY AND THROUGH THE SAFEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL MEANS AVAILABLE. THE DISTRICT UTILIZES A VARIETY OF METHODS (INTEGRATED MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT) IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SAFETY AND MINIMAL ADVERSE IMPACT ON HUMANS, WILDLIFE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND NON-TARGET ORGANISMS.

COLLIER MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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2017 AT A GLANCE

400+ SQUARE MILES

RESIDENTS SERVED 300,000+

102 AIRPLANE MISSIONS

55 HELICOPTER MISSIONS

17 BUFFALO TURBINE LARVICIDE MISSIONS

40+ MOSQUITO SPECIES

6,313 ACRES LARVICIDE TREATMENTS

30 EMPLOYEES

24 EMPLOYEE TRAINING EVENTS

OPERATING BUDGET \$11.2 MILLION

90,994 ACRES ADULTICIDE TREATMENTS

24.62 GAL ANVIL

78.5 GAL ZENIVEX

9,766.5 GAL DIBROM



LEARN MORE AT WWW.CMCD.ORG

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Patrick P. Linn, MS, MSHAPI



It has been another eventful year at the District.

Noteworthy this year was the addition of several new professionals to the staff. We are happy to report that the District has added expertise in Research, Finance/ Administration, PR & Communications, and Operations to meet the growing and changing needs of those whom we serve.

The District also dramatically increased its use of larvicides in 2017. The employment of sound logistics, effort, and financial investment have all contributed to encouraging results. Despite the sizable percentage increase in larvicide use in the past year however, the District still faces the real challenges associated with a goal of implementing an impactful aerial larvicide program. Reaching this goal will require longer-term, stepwise increases in acreage treated.

The high spring tides and over-winter drought of 2017 conspired to produce a salt marsh mosquito season the likes of which Collier had not seen in decades. The enormous amount of (presently) untreatable habitat meant that adulticide missions provided only fleeting relief from infestation by *Aedes taeneorhynchus* adults arriving daily on winds from the southeast reaches of our county.

Thankfully, there was a considerable reduction in Zika virus activity in the region this year. Collaboration with colleagues at the Department of Health continued, and education/outreach remains a priority.

Certainly, one of the focal points of the year was the impact of Hurricane Irma. Although each storm that comes our way is unique, Hurricane Irma brandished every conceivable threat. Miraculously, the District's headquarters escaped with minimal damage, and all aerial and ground assets were safe. The dramatic effects of an event so profound have brought to light the need for flexibility in both storm preparation and response. The District is in process to have a comprehensive Hurricane Policy and Plan in place well in advance of the next storm season.

The Mission of the Collier Mosquito Control District is to provide a valuable service to residents and visitors. The leadership and employees of the District take this mandate quite seriously, and continue to work hard every day to ensure we meet the mission. We hope you will find this annual report informative and helpful in your understanding of what we do. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We are here to help.

The Collier Mosquito Control District Board: what an essential part of those fortunate to live in Collier County.

We only have to look back and visualize what it was like for the first visitors to our area, including when Baron Collier set about building the Tamiami Trail during the 1920s. Because of mosquitoes, life was positively miserable in what eventually became Collier County. The bugs severely limited outdoor activities and, in general, made life less than desirable.

Today, we continue building on the vision that was brought about by the forward-thinking citizens who founded the Naples Mosquito Control District 67 years ago, which then served only six square miles (the name was changed to Collier Mosquito Control District in 1976). Their actions established the foundation which has helped us meet our mission today, serving an area more than 400,000 square miles. Thanks to their vision, we are stronger than ever and with our County's population increasing, our District is bound to grow as we provide a valuable service to an expanding citizenry. We are and will continue to be mindful of the trust that Collier County's citizens have in our goals and operation.

This past year brought—as it always does—new challenges, and the Commissioners' job is to accept and deal with them in as effective way as possible. In 2017, unarguably the top challenge was the salt marsh mosquito invasion. During the spring months, their prolific presence required innovative control methods.

In the foreseeable future, new methods of control, increased larvicide operations, District boundary expansions, and continued aerial spraying are likely, all of which are essential to the quality of life we continue to enjoy as residents of Collier County.

I urge our citizens to become involved! We want and value the public's input, so please attend our monthly meetings to share your opinions with this vital board in Collier County. The Commissioners are charged with setting the policies and procedures for the District, which then are carried out by the executive director and the dedicated staff who are mindful of their responsibilities to achieve the mission. They will not let down the Commissioners nor Collier County's residents.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Michael P. Williams



OPERATIONS

Collier County experienced a hot, dry winter that extended well into the spring, which greatly helped reduce the presence of Mansonia mosquitoes throughout the District. However, those same conditions contributed to a prolific population of Aedes taeniorhynchus, or Salt Marsh mosquitoes, as soon as spring tides reached the mangroves in May. The swarms coming out of the State and federally protected lands—which border the southern boundaries of the District—were often described as "biblical" by those experiencing the aggressive biters. The population numbers were estimated to be in the trillions. It created a challenging situation for both the District and area citizens, and the local media visited the District's facilities weekly as they reported about the outbreak. Conversations have begun between the District's leadership and the State to explore potential treatment options for those remote lands.

As well, the District continues to investigate the use of insecticides other than Dibrom that are effective in controlling mosquitoes. For example, the use of Anvil on the Salt Marsh mosquitoes resulted in an effective knock-down.

LARVICIDING

In May, the District saw favorable results using Bti larvicide to treat mangrove areas via helicopter in the northern portion of the District.

A total of 6,313 acres were treated with larvicide materials via trucks, the Buffalo Turbine, and helicopters. The District used Bti - short for *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *israelensis* - which is a naturally occurring bacterium found in soils. The spores affect only the larvae of mosquitoes, blackflies and fungus gnats, with no toxicity to humans.

FIELD TECHNICIANS

Six Field Technicians cover the District's 400+ square miles, responding to the public's requests for property inspections, dispersing larvicides to storm drains, schools, parks and other public areas, and assisting with public

assisting with publi outreach events.

Field Technician Richie Ryan talks with Naples Manor residents during a community outreach event.

Nate Phillips was promoted to Field Technician Supervisor one of the District's helicopters.

The installation of a new weather station in expected to be complete in early 2018, as well as a new data management system. These new technologies will improve the accuracy of weather forecasting when planning treatment missions, and

provide more efficient documentation processes.

Thanks to a remodeling project within the Administration building, the Operations Department moved into a new space large enough to accommodate office space for the Operations



upon the retirement of Daniel Weeks, whose career spanned 34 years with the District. To round out the staff, two new technicians were added – Drew Luckow and Jeffrey Galluccci.

Throughout the year, they furthered their industry expertise by attending Florida Mosquito Control Association's Dodd Courses and the Florida Mosquito Control Association annual conference.

IMPROVEMENTS

Butch May installed a 400-gallon tank on the District's flatbed, which increased ground treatment capabilities by providing support to the new Simplex 8500 liquid larviciding system installed on

Director, the Field Technician Supervisor, and a meeting room. The staff affectionately refers to the new space as "the war room" where early morning meetings are held to review surveillance data so that treatment missions can be planned.

The Buffalo Turbine was used throughout 2017 to target areas with significant presence of mosquito larvae. The areas where it routinely dispersed liquid VectoBac Bti larvicide were:

- Ave Maria
- Downtown Naples
- Golden Gate City
- Golden Gate Estates
- Industrial Park
- Immokalee
- Naples Airport
- Naples Manor
- Naples Park

ADMINISTRATION

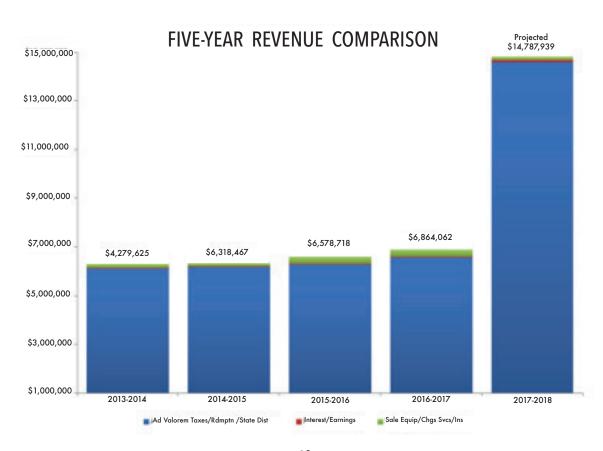
The District concluded fiscal year (FY) 2016-2017 with an ending cash balance of \$4,018,926. The budget is balanced and the District maintains satisfactory reserves, as well as available cash into FY 2017-2018. Revenue for FY 2016-2017 was generated by a millage rate of 0.0878 (\$8.78) per hundred thousand of taxable property value. Total proceeds for the FY were \$6,864,082, which included \$213,023 from aerial treatment outside of the District's boundaries. Fiscal year expenditures were \$7,332,051, a decrease of 3.8 percent from the prior fiscal year.

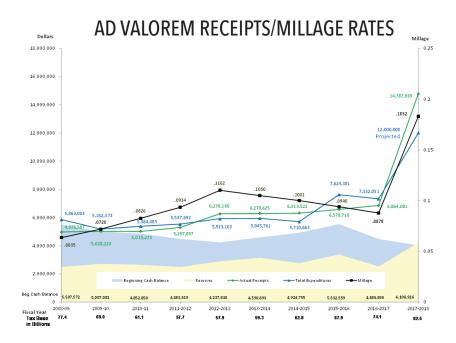
The five-year Revenue Comparison Chart (*below*) shows the prior four years of revenue and projected income for FY 2017-2018. The chart illustrates that revenue has increased by approximately 115 percent to meet the financial objectives created

by the population and development growth spurt in Collier County. Funds have been earmarked to reconfigure and modernize the aerial and ground fleet and associated equipment, to implement new geographic information system (GIS) software, to renovate the aging facilities, and to hire additional personnel to meet the unique challenges mosquito control faces in southwest Florida

Projected expenses for FY 2017-2018 include:

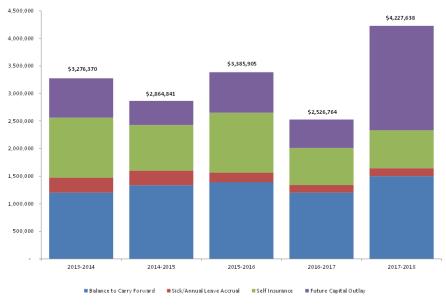
- control program augmentation
- continued upgrade of District helicopters
- evaluating alternative control materials
- increased larviciding efforts
- purchase of a new fuel truck
- purchase of software to improve data management and analysis, and
- changes to the physical structure of the Administration building to accommodate personnel and technology.





The Ad Valorem Receipts/Millage Rates Chart depicts the Collier County tax base, the millage rate, and the District's cash flow over time. In correlation with the growth of the economy, the tax base in Collier County has increased by \$6.2 billion for FY 2016-2017 and \$8.4 billion for FY 2017-2018.





The Future Capital Outlay account has an increase of \$1,700,874, as shown in this diagram. The majority of this money— along with \$3,000,000 which is available in capital outlay—is projected to be utilized for the purchase of an additional aircraft in FY 2018-2019. The sick and annual leave reserve equates to the long-term liability at fiscal year-end, and the reserve for self-insurance corresponds to the health insurance actuarial report reserve allocation.

Employees continue to contribute 3 percent of their earnings to the Florida Retirement System (FRS). In accordance with Florida Statutes, the District also contributes a percentage of employee wages to the FRS, which is established by the Florida Legislature yearly. On behalf of the pilots, the District contributes to a 401(a) plan, in recognition of the special level of risk associated with their positions.

Funding the District's retirees' future health benefits is important, thus the Board of Commissioners made discretionary payments totaling \$271,700 to the District's Internal Revenue Code Section 115 Retiree Benefit Trust during the fiscal year.

The District maintains a high deductible, definedcontribution health insurance plan that is offset by a personal health fund (PHF). Heritage Consultants, Inc., has been the third-party administrator for six calendar years, and Cigna became the preferred provider organization (PPO) in January of 2013. The Employee Assistance Program contract with Aetna Resources for living was renewed in 2017. For the third consecutive year, employees and their dependents over the age of 18 were encouraged to participate in a healthy living program, Viverae. Those who participate can earn health insurance premium discounts. The program incorporates biometric screening and a health assessment, as well as an interactive wellness website with questionnaires, e-learning, and health challenges. There will be no change in health insurance premium costs in the coming year.

The District continues to employ the services of Bond, Schoeneck, and King, with Bill Owens serving as District Counsel. The audit agreement with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP has been renewed for another two-year period.

During FY 16-17 administrative staff facilitated the change from an antiquated payroll system to the online ADP Workforce Now timekeeping and payroll system, and plans to add the benefits program to this system in FY 17-18. This software can also be accessed via mobile devices. In

addition, Administrative staff began testing and implementation of a new accounting system. Phase I is expected to go live during FY 17-18. The Employee Handbook has been updated and now includes the Board Policies, and can be accessed internally via the ADP system. In addition, many of the Administrative documents and contracts have been digitally stored in the effort to go paperless.

During the heavy Salt Marsh mosquito season in the spring months, Administrative staff members fielded an overabundance number of phone calls. The volume of incoming calls was more than the District's phone system could accommodate, and it caused the system to shut down. Due to this malfunction, the phone system has been upgraded, and the District now has an automated phone system to field incoming calls.

To increase transparency with the public-at-large, the Board of Commissioners (BOC) opted to go paperless with their packet data during FY 16-17, posting the monthly agenda, documentation, minutes, and meeting recordings on the District's website. The BOC now use iPads to view the pertinent data during meetings instead of reviewing stacks of printed documents.

Ensuring that the District's facilities and equipment are well-maintained and adequate to meet the needs of the organization is critical to success. Expenditures totaling \$687,094 facilitated the repair and maintenance of aircraft and facilities, as well as other infrastructure needs.

The District budgets for and purchases control materials based on average usage over time. From a financial standpoint it is important to note that carryover of adult and larval control materials for use during the 2017 season is valued at \$890,752, representing a dollar decrease in chemical of \$393,638, or 31 percent. The decrease in inventory allows funds to be available for future evaluation of new and emerging control materials, and reduces chemicals on hand, thus utilizing a just-in-time delivery scenario.

AERIAL FLEET MAINTENANCE

With a focus on increasing the District's larviciding program, the Maintenance staff designed and installed a Simplex 8500 System for liquid larviciding on one of the District's five Hughes MD-500 helicopters.

A second helicopter was shipped to Mesa, Ariz., in May for an airframe overhaul and installation of an updated instrument panel. The vendor, Precision Heli Support, is expected to complete the project and return the ship by early 2018.

The District's Maintenance staff also performed upgrades on the Skyvan airplanes. An improved check valve on was placed on one of the three airplanes.

To aid in the avoidance of bird collisions, an avoidance light was installed on another Skyvan for testing purposes.



Aviation Mechanic Peter Brake helps to prepare one of the District's five MD-500 helicopters for shipping to a facility in Arizona for an airframe overhaul.



Director of Aviation Maintenance Jay Wilson adjusts the Simplex 8500 larviciding system after it was installed on an MD-500 helicopter. The dual-boom system was designed and crafted by the District's maintenance staff.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The District's public relations efforts increased throughout the year, adding new opportunities to reach citizens through social media, community

outreach and media coverage.

Education
Coordinator Adrian
Salinas conducts a
classroom lesson on
the parts of an insect
as part of the District's
outreach program.

Targeting homeowner associations, civic groups, clubs and government officials, the Executive Director and Public Relations Specialist participated in 23 informative presentations. Most of the presentations

focusing on topics including insect identification and life cycle. The classroom instruction increases the District's presence in Collier County's schools to not only compliment curricula, but to deliver key messaging related to mosquito control, specifically to eliminate standing water in an effort to decrease mosquito breeding habitat.

Partnering with other community organizations resulted in invitations to participate in 19 events during the year, including parades and Collier County Sheriff Office outreach celebrations. An obstacle course encouraging children to "dump the water" was created in coordination with the



focused on educating the public about the District's history, current operations and how its boundaries will potentially grow to keep up with Collier County's continued population increases.

Area residents and schoolchildren participated in 31 tours of the District's facilities at Naples Municipal Airport. Many of the events were coordinated through the Airport where groups toured various businesses and organizations affiliated with the Naples Airport Authority.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The District's Education Coordinator conducted presentations tied to curricula in area schools,

Florida Department of Health for the Immokalee Ciclovia event, and the District dispatched a larviciding truck to the Collier Solid Waste District event to treat discarded tires. At most of the outdoor events, the District provided a "fight-the-bite" station where citizens could use cans of mosquito repellent to ward off the bugs.

The District's logo was updated, providing an opportunity to rebrand all the vehicles, signage

A youngster participates in the Immokalee Ciclovia obstacle course created by the District and the Department of Health, teaching children to eliminate standing water and reduce mosquito habitat.

and business correspondence with a new identity. The new logo presents a clean, easily recognizable image that translates easily into various formats.

The District's Open House in July attracted more than 300 visitors to the facility. Partnering with other government and community groups meant that a fire truck, rock-climbing wall, free refreshments, and robot demonstrations were part of the event. Visitors toured the District's facilities, including operations planning, the laboratory and the hangar. Field technicians explained the procedures and methods used in surveillance, research scientists addressed curious minds in

news in 31 separate broadcast and printed stories. Relationships were established between the District's executive staff and journalists so that they could readily turn to the executives for expert advice and information regarding mosquito control.

Executive Director Patrick Linn explains the District's efforts in controlling the Salt Marsh mosquito inundation during an on-air interview.



Director of Operations
Johnny Appezzato answers
visitors' questions about
planning treatment missions
during the District's open
house.

the laboratory, and pilots and mechanics answered questions about the MD-500 helicopter and Skyvan airplanes on display. Plans are already underway to make the event larger and to schedule in during the

spring (instead of summer) to reach a larger local audience.

MEDIA RELATIONS

From the Salt Marsh mosquito inundation during the spring to ride-along interviews during treatment missions, area media covered District

RESEARCH

ARBOVIRAL SURVEILLANCE

Collier County continued to see importations of the Zika virus as travelers returned or visited from abroad. The Research Department maintained an intensive surveillance disease surveillance system of suspected Zika importations by trapping *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes and testing for the presence of disease. In total, 616 mosquitoes were tested by real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction for Zika. No positive mosquitoes were detected in the county. In addition to the threat posed by the Zika virus, endemic viruses like West Nile continued to

remain a concern in 2017. The District tested over 78 pools of *Culex nigripalpus* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquitoes for West Nile virus throughout the summer. No positive pools of West Nile Virus were detected.

For the first time, the District deployed honey cards on a trial basis. This emerging technique detects viruses left behind by mosquitoes that feed off the honey on the cards. Preservative cards are soaked in a honey mixture and placed inside a trap baited with carbon dioxide. As mosquitoes enter the trap they feed on the honey and, if infected, leave some virus behind preserved on the card. The cards are then tested for the presence of a virus. The traps functioned well and seemed to both capture mosquitoes and enable feeding on the honey. The Research staff are looking forward to refining this technique and expanding the use of honey cards throughout the district in the next year.

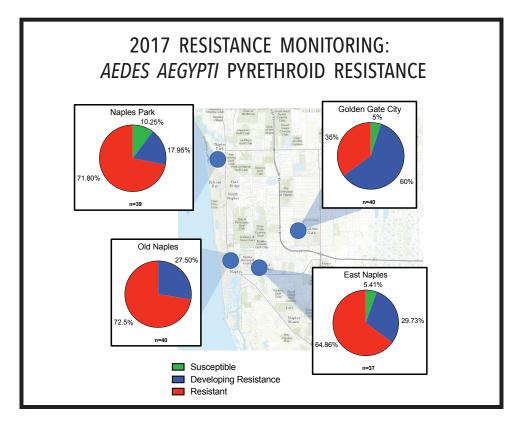
SOUTHEASTERN CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

In 2016, the District began a collaboration with

the CDC-funded Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Disease. The Center of Excellence aims to bring research from the academic laboratory and into operational usage to control vectors of disease. In 2017, this collaboration with the Center of Excellence led to many new projects and collaborations with researchers around the state. In July, the District's student intern Rachel Bales visited researchers at the University of Florida to learn new molecular techniques for the detection of resistance in mosquitoes.

Other collaborations include the trapping of *Culiciodes spp*. midges for a project at the Florida Medical Entomological Laboratory and the collection of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes for a project being conducted at the University of Florida. In addition, the Center of Excellence supported travel and attendance costs for the District's Director of Research to participate in a regional meeting of the Council of State and Territory Epidemiologists in New Orleans, La. Collaborations with mosquito researchers

The District's researchers assessed the area's Aedes aegypti mosquitoes in four locations to determine the bugs' resistance to pyrethroid-based insecticides.



and institutions throughout Florida continue to strengthen and are expected to continue in the coming year.

RESISTANCE MONITORING

2017 saw the adoption of a new method for the monitoring of insecticide resistance in mosquitoes that relies on examining mosquitoes for the presence of knockdown resistance (KDR) mutations. A KDR mutation in the genome of a mosquito will confer resistance to many common types of pesticides. By trapping mosquitoes and testing their genomes for the presence of these mutations the preliminary status of pesticide resistance in mosquitoes can be quickly determined and treatment decisions made. The KDR technique has some tremendous advantages over previous methods including the ability to rapidly test many mosquitoes, the ability to detect resistance before it becomes widespread and the ability to track levels of resistance over time.

The District's researchers assessed two species of mosquitoes and eight populations throughout the District for resistance genes. These results indicate that nearly all populations of *Aedes aegypti* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* tested so far show some level of resistance to pyrethroid-based insecticides. In some areas, nearly all mosquitoes tested have mutations that confer resistance. The District continues to monitor these populations and expand resistance surveillance to other species including *Culex nigripalpus*.

BG-COUNTER SURVEILLANCE

This was the first year the District partnered with Biogents GMBH to test a new kind of mosquito trap: the BG-Counter. The device represents a revolution in the way mosquito populations are sampled by automatically counting mosquitoes entering the machine, then uploading the data to the Internet for viewing every 15 minutes. The District purchased 11 of these traps and place them strategically throughout the county. After months of logging data, the traps yielded new insights into the flight behavior of the Salt Marsh mosquito by

showing that increased mosquito activity is closely associated with new moons and high tides. Other uses for the traps include the real-time monitoring of treatment efficacy and determining the peak host-seeking activity of mosquitoes. After a successful trial of the BG-Counters, the District is looking forward to expanding the number of traps and maintaining a permanent surveillance network.



The District partnered with Biogents by placing 11 BG-Counters throughout the county. The mosquito-counting results were impressive and more of these revolutionary devices will be used in the coming year.

PERSONNEL

Commissioner John Johnson ended his 16-year tenure with the District in December 2016, with the election of Commissioner David Chapman, whose term officially began Jan. 3, 2017.

Nick Klein, Dennis Jones, and Jay Wilson were recognized for 25, 30 and 45 years of service respectively, at the January 2017 Tenure Awards luncheon.

During fiscal year 2016-2017, Padhraic McGlynn a part-time pilot, left to pursue other opportunities.

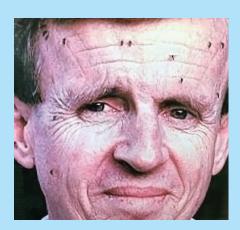
The following personnel were hired:

- Jeffrey Gallucci, Field Technician
- Mark Grazewski, Accounting Specialist
- Robin King, Public Relations Specialist
- Keira Lucas, Ph.D., Biologist
- Drew Luckow, Field Inspector

RETIREMENTS

Daniel Weeks, a District employee for 34 years, retired July 2017. Danny began his tenure as a Field Inspector in 1983 and worked diligently during the years, often appearing in media photographs as he worked with journalists to explain mosquito habitats and how the District's Field Technicians work to help combat larval and adult mosquitoes. Danny became Chief Inspector in June of 2012. The District commends Danny for his long and much-appreciated service.

A local photographer captured a landing rate count as Danny Weeks demonstrated the technique.





Office Coordinator
Freddie Wiliams was
the first voice and
smiling face that
greeted callers and
visitors at the District's
office.

The District's high-profile Office Coordinator ended her 17-year stint to enter retirement at the end of the 2017. Freddie Williams began her tenure with the District in 2001 as Receptionist and soon became the crucial point of contact for the Administration department, thus her job title was ultimately changed to Office Coordinator. She was often the first person that a resident or visitor interacted with when contacting the District. Her silky smooth voice was well known on the District's recordings as she updated spray schedules. Freddie always seemed to have the solution for problems as they cropped up at the most inconvenient of times. No matter the situation, she continuously presented a calm facade that made everyone feel reassured that they were in good hands. Freddie will be sorely missed

TRAINING

The District's staff attended numerous training opportunities throughout the year, advancing their knowledge in areas including mosquito control best practices, updating safety procedures, and professional development.

MONTH	TRAINING/CONFERENCE
ОСТ	NAVUG SUMMIT
NOV	FMCA ANNUAL MEETING
DEC	SWFGFOA ANNUAL PUBLIC FUNDS INVESTMENT SEMINAR
	FLORIDA ZIKA SUMMIT
JAN	FMCA AERIAL SHORT COURSES
	MD HELICOPTERS TRAINING
	CLOUD COMPUTING: RISKS & CONTROLS
	FRS MEETING
	LEADERSHIP COLLIER: ZIKA THREAT
	FMCA DODD SHORT COURSES
FEB	EMPLOYER COMPLIANCE: 2017
	AMCA ANNUAL MEETING
	VOYA 457 MEETING
	FMCA TALLAHASSEE DAYS
MAR	FGFOA BEGINNER BOOT CAMP
	AMCD ARBOVIRUS WORKSHOP
	ID THEFT MEETING
	SWFGFOA QUARTERLY SEMINAR
APRL	SUN 'N FUN INTERNATIONAL FLY-IN
	ANNUAL ADMIN. PROF. CONFERENCE
MAY	GOV'T TRAINING ACADEMY
	EPICOR INSIGHTS
JULY	ROLLS ROYCE M250/T63 MAINTENANCE TRAINING
	OSHA TRAINING

The staff enjoyed some camaraderie when they kicked-off the Memorial Day weekend with a pot luck luncheon.



HURRICANE IRMA

ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2017,
HURRICANE IRMA IMPACTED THE ENTIRE STATE OF FLORIDA,
WITH SOME COLLIER COUNTY COMMUNITIES
AMONG THE HARDEST HIT.
THE DISTRICT'S FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED,
BUT TREATMENT MISSIONS RESUMED WITHIN A WEEK.



The District's Buffalo Turbine dispersed larvacide throughout storm-impacted communities where standing water and debrislined roadways provided ample mosquito breeding habitat.

Hurricane Irma made its way directly over Collier County on Sept. 10, heavily impacting the southern reaches of the county. The District's structures at the Naples Municipal Airport received some damage, but fortunately none of the aerial fleet was affected since the ships were relocated to other parts of the state prior to the storm. Generators provided enough power for laptops and fans in the days after the hurricane, but debris on the roads and power outages at the airport prevented Operations from conducting surveillance and planning treatments for three days.

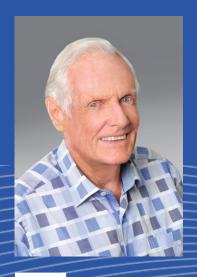
Two weeks later, the District responded to a request from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to treat southern areas

outside of the District. Field Technicians collected surveillance and treated the communities surrounding Everglades City for mosquito larvae using the Buffalo Turbine, targeting the standing water and towering piles of debris along the roadsides. Over the next four weeks, two aerial treatments provided much-needed relief to those citizens, aid workers and utility crews.

Throughout the District, the tremendous volume of storm water and mountains of horticultural debris, created the perfect habitat for mosquitoes. During the remainder of September, nine aerial adulticiding missions treated the entire District.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Michael P. Williams Chairman



Jacquelyn D. Thompson-Fresenius Vice Chairman



David H. Farmer Treasurer



Robert D. Geroy



David Chapman

DISTRICT MAP

