



STATE OF FLORIDA  
**DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

RICK SCOTT  
Governor

BRYAN W. KOON  
Director

**APPENDIX A**  
**Florida DEM**  
Vector Control Quick Guide  
Public Assistance Projects

Please review the following guidelines for reimbursement of mosquito abatement costs you may incur as a result of a disaster. Be reminded, take the necessary actions to prevent a health and safety threat as soon as possible, but know the rules for reimbursement following a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

**1. The Public Assistance Policy Digest (FEMA 321 / January 2008, pg 137) states:**

- a. Vector Control measures may be eligible for PA Program assistance in the disaster area as emergency protective measures when there is a serious health hazard. FEMA may provide reimbursement for such costs at the written request of the State or local public health officials. Verification of the threat by the State and local health agencies in accordance with established ordinances is required.
- b. FEMA may reimburse short-term abatement costs that are in excess of usual costs. The eligible costs are calculated by comparing the disaster-related costs to the most recent three non-disaster years of expenses for the same period. This includes both adulticide (aerial and ground spraying) and larvacide.

**2. Eligibility Requirements**

You must be an **Eligible Applicant** as defined in the Public Assistance Policy Digest, pg 41, and have the legal responsibility (see pg 44) to perform vector control.  
<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/pa/pdigest08.pdf>. The FEMA vector control policy (Recovery Policy 9523.10) can be found at: [http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/9523\\_10.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/9523_10.shtm).

**3. Documentation Requirements**

- A letter from the department of health (DOH) indicating a serious health threat or a mosquito nuisance that is severely hampering the recovery effort.
- Trap data (for adulticide use) or dip data (for larvicide use) must be collected verifying the hazard.
- Three years of baseline data.
- Spray/dip area maps detailing the zones affected.
- The chemical used, application method and concentration used. Chemical must be an EPA approved chemical for use in Florida.
- Dates of application.

#### 4. Vector Control Public Assistance Process

- a. Enter a mission in EM Constellation immediately for assistance and consultation. If you do not have access to EMC please call one of the contacts below for assistance. Entering a mission into EM Constellation begins the documentation process for Public Assistance and initiates contact and support from the Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) mosquito control section. Entering a mission for Vector Control assistance in EMC does not obligate the county to proceed with vector control or public assistance. It only initiates contact and coordination with DEM, DACS and DOH.
- b. Surveillance (trap) data needs to be collected early in order to meet the requirements of the Public Assistance Program. Begin collecting surveillance data as soon as possible (DACS can assist with trapping, training, trap collection and mosquito identification). Sample data sheets can be found at [http://www.flsart.org/pdf/Trap\\_Spreadsheet\\_Template.xls](http://www.flsart.org/pdf/Trap_Spreadsheet_Template.xls)
- c. Applications for Vector Control reimbursement should contain 3 years of baseline data to support increase in normal mosquito population. Not having three years of baseline data does not preclude you from getting Public Assistance. Public Assistance determinations are made on a case by case basis by FEMA.
- d. Applications for Vector Control reimbursement must contain a letter from the County Health Department indicating a serious health effect or a mosquito nuisance that is seriously hampering the recovery efforts. A sample DOH letter can be found at <http://www.flsart.org/pdf/Sample%20County%20Health%20Department%20Letter.pdf>
- e. Aerial maps showing the areas to be sprayed and the trap locations (physical address or GPS coordinates). DACS can assist with spray maps and spraying (aerial and ground). Spray maps for some counties may be found at [http://www.flsart.org/vector\\_control/countyspray.jsp](http://www.flsart.org/vector_control/countyspray.jsp)
- f. Information indicating the chemical to be applied and its properties needs to be provided. Information on some common chemicals is found here [http://www.flsart.org/vector\\_control/](http://www.flsart.org/vector_control/)
- g. Authorization from the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection (FDEP) must be obtained if State lands are to be sprayed. If spray maps are drafted by DACS, authorization from FDEP for spraying over State Lands is coordinated by DACS.

#### 5. FEMA Concurrency Review

- All documents are to be uploaded to EM Constellation as an update to the original mission requesting Vector Control assistance. All documents are gathered by the Division of Emergency Management – Environmental and Debris Section (EDS) and submitted to FEMA for review and concurrency from the CDC and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Once concurrency is received Vector Control applications may be initiated. **Note that concurrency from the CDC is a requirement for Public Assistance and the CDC may not provide after the fact concurrency. CDC concurrency is coordinated by FDEM through FEMA EHP.**
- If a second application of adulticide (aerial and ground) or larvacide is required post spray trap data must indicate a need for a second spraying and all documentation including a new letter from the DOH has to be submitted for concurrency with the CDC and the USFWS.

#### 6. Recommendations

- It is strongly recommended that a mission be entered into EM Constellation requesting vector control assistance whether DACS assistance will be required or the county will be using its own resources.

- If you are not sure you will be applying for public assistance start the process anyway and follow the guidelines. It is much easier than trying to meet all the requirements after the fact. Also, CDC and USFWS do not have to give after the fact concurrency.
- Communication with EDS should be initiated as early as possible so coordination with FEMA for concurrency review can begin early in the process.
- Vector Control efforts that will be submitted to FEMA for Public Assistance should not be initiated until the FEMA concurrency review is completed.
- Give special attention to areas to be sprayed and chemicals used since changes in spray zones or chemicals may require a second FEMA concurrency review which could delay vector control operations.
- Make use of resources provided by DACS and EDS it will make acquiring public assistance for vector control easier and faster.

## 7. Point of Contact

To coordinate your vector control measures or for more information please contact:

### **DEM / EDS**

Henry Hernandez  
Deputy State Environmental Officer  
Division of Emergency Management  
Environmental and Debris Section  
[enrique.hernandez@em.myflorida.com](mailto:enrique.hernandez@em.myflorida.com)  
(850) 922-5914

Virginia (Ginger) Shirah  
Environmental Specialist  
Division of Emergency Management  
Environmental and Debris Section  
[ginger.shirah@em.myflorida.com](mailto:ginger.shirah@em.myflorida.com)  
(850) 410-1598

### **DACS**

Dale Dubberly  
MCIRT Incident Commander  
Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
[Dale.Dubberly@freshfromflorida.com](mailto:Dale.Dubberly@freshfromflorida.com)  
(386) 418-5507