

Mosquito Control Incident Response Team

Mosquito population levels can drastically increase in flood prone areas of Florida in the aftermath of hurricanes and other storm systems.

The Mosquito Control Incident Response Team (MCIRT) assists Florida counties undergoing repair and recovery activities following a disaster with mosquito control abatement once public assistance eligibility requirements are met.

Adhering to the Incident Command System structure, the MCIRT is a specialized unit within the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) to deal with mosquito control issues.

Designed for rapid deployment, the MCIRT assists with coordination between state and federal agencies, concurrency requirements and may provide mosquito surveillance and identification assistance.

Please be advised that this assistance can only be provided when there has been an Emergency Declaration by the president of the United States or the governor of Florida, and repair and recovery activities of the requesting county have commenced. If there are no repair and recovery efforts occurring in the county, the MCIRT will not be activated.

For More Information

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Helpful Links

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Agricultural Environmental Services
<https://www.freshfromflorida.com>

Florida State Agricultural Response Team
<http://flsart.org>



Mosquito Control Incident Response Team

A Guide for Florida County Emergency Managers

Division of Agricultural Environmental Services

In Partnership with the Florida State Agricultural Response Team



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services



Floodwaters left behind after Hurricane Irma in 2017 (naplesnews.com).

Emergency Declaration

The Mosquito Control Incident Response Team (MCIRT) can only be activated when the president of the United States or the governor of Florida declares that an emergency or major disaster exists in the county requesting emergency mosquito control assistance. The declaration establishes the federal cost share, type of incident, incident period, designated areas, types of assistance and the federal coordinating officer.

The assistance Federal Emergency Management Agency provides through its Public Assistance Program is subject to cost share, which will be specified in the declaration document. Following an emergency declaration, county emergency managers must coordinate with their county mosquito control personnel prior to requesting assistance for emergency mosquito control from the State of Florida.

Request for Emergency Mosquito Control Assistance

After an emergency declaration has been issued, repair and recovery efforts have been initiated, and the county emergency manager has coordinated with mosquito control personnel, a formal request for emergency mosquito control assistance must be made using WebEOC. The following support documentation must be entered:

- * **Florida Department of Health Letter** indicating serious health threat or a mosquito nuisance that is severely hampering recovery efforts.
- * **County Administrator/Commissioner Letter of Support** for operation of low-flying aircraft and the application of pesticides.
- * **Three-year baseline mosquito surveillance trap data** to compare with post-incident mosquito counts and identification.
- * **County GIS map of proposed spray zone(s).** County maps can be found on the Florida SART website, flsart.org.
- * **Media/social media plan** to inform residents and interested parties 48 hours prior to the initiation of mosquito control operations; parties may include local law enforcement, volunteer fire departments, Department of Health, county extension agents, newspaper, radio, and television.



Preparing for aerial mosquito control application following Hurricane Michael in 2018.

Emergency Mosquito Control Assistance (continued)

After the county information has been entered in WebEOC, the MCIRT will evaluate the request and determine if the county is eligible for emergency mosquito control assistance from the State of Florida, or if the county is eligible for any federal reimbursement for conducting its own mosquito control activities. It is important to note that all communication between the county and the MCIRT for assistance must be done through WebEOC.

Notes
