



Solid Waste Management
Mosquito Control and
Habitat Management Division

Mosquito Control Fact Sheet



The Mosquito Control and Habitat Management Division proactively surveils and addresses mosquito activity year-round as part of an Integrated Vector Management (IVM) Program, which includes the following:

SURVEILLANCE

The Division has deployed a surveillance network of more than 160 mosquito traps throughout Miami-Dade County. The traps are monitored regularly by half a dozen Mosquito Control inspectors.

TYPES OF TRAPS

BG-Sentinel – used in residential areas to capture the *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Miniature Light Traps – used in remote areas to collect floodwater mosquitoes.

Both traps use dry ice to attract mosquitoes. Trapped mosquitoes are brought back to the lab, counted and sent for virus screening (*Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*).

A team of County scientists (entomologist and biologists) collects mosquito surveillance data year-round

Type of data collected:

✓ Mosquito species ✓ Gender ✓ Number of mosquitoes (mosquito population)

INSPECTIONS

Mosquito Control inspectors respond to requests for service reported to the County's 311 Contact Center. Inspectors are assigned to:

- Inspect residential and commercial properties to find mosquito sources.
- Inspect the complainant's property, as well as neighboring areas.
- Look for any type of container that holds water and breeds mosquitoes.
 - When mosquito breeding is found, containers are emptied, and the source of the nuisance is eliminated.
 - Larvicide can be used to treat water-holding plants and large containers that cannot be drained easily; stagnant swimming pools can be stocked with mosquito-eating fish.
- Yards are sprayed using portable spray equipment to kill adult mosquitoes.





CONTROL

Pesticides are used as needed to eliminate adult and larval mosquitoes.

On-going truck spraying as well as manual larvicide and adulticide treatments are conducted throughout the county. When necessary, aerial adulticiding is performed.



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

An education and outreach campaign is designed to remind residents about their role in controlling mosquitoes.

- **"Mosquito 101" workshops** are scheduled throughout the county to educate residents on how to abate mosquito breeding at home.
- The trilingual (English, Spanish, and Creole) "Drain and Cover" campaign continues to be employed to educate citizens on preventive measures utilizing TV, print, radio, online, outdoor and social media ads and content.
- Staff give presentations on mosquito control efforts to schools, homeowner associations, community groups, municipalities and industry groups interested in learning more about mosquitoes.

STAFFING

Staff has more than tripled in size from 17 to 59 over 2016 and includes:

- **38** mosquito control inspection staff;
- **13** surveillance staff (which includes lab techs and biologists); and
- **8** administrative staff, including the DSWM Division Director, Dr. William Petrie, who holds a Ph.D. in the area of Mosquito Reproductive Biology, safety officers, support staff, and two public information officers.

