

# In the Spotlight

Continuing with our journey showcasing our wonderful women of the Florida Mosquito Control Association, we want to Spotlight the Director of Columbia County Mosquito Control District, Pamela Davis, to start off the new year.

After many attempts trying to get Pamela into the Spotlight, we were finally able to get her to take some time from her busy schedule to answer a few questions. Here is what she had to share with us.

When we asked Pamela what she loved the most about her industry, she told us, “Definitely not the pesky mosquitoes.” Then we got serious and she told us she loved to be able to educate her community on the need to be more diligent in their own backyard by draining and covering any water to stop mosquitoes from multiplying and to ward off any diseases they carry.



Her advice to someone who wants to enter her field would be to “crack open the books and learn all you can and be boots on the ground to gain all the knowledge that this industry has to offer; the industry is ever changing with what we learn about the mosquito (new species, diseases and treatments).” She went on to let us know that this was not her field of choice. Her original field of choice in 1988 was the Solid Waste Industry; but four years into her job her boss passed away suddenly and she was thrown into the mosquito control world. She then studied mosquitoes and acquired her Public Health License just to keep her county compliant to spray mosquitoes. Then, as time went on, 34 years to be exact, she grew intriguingly more interested about mosquitoes and now she is the Solid Waste / Mosquito Control

Director.

Pamela defines success when you have completed a job and feel a sense of accomplishment... When you are ready, willing, and able to lend a helping hand... When you put others ahead of you... When you take that extra measure to make someone feel better, feel comfortable, feel special... When you find joy and happiness within. Success is when you share it.

Pamela told us that her older sister, Barbara, is the person that inspires her. She continued by stating, her sister has always been someone that she looked up to and aspired to be like, she is always someone that has an encouraging word that comes straight from her heart. Barbara has a light that shines so bright that you just want to spend time with her. She has been there no matter if Pamela failed or succeeded. Her sister gives her the motivation to have the willpower to succeed. She has been a role model for the person that Pamela has aspired to be.

You may not know that Pamela’s favorite hobby is fishing. In fact, she likes to bait her own hooks... whether it is worms, crickets, or bait fish. Another fun fact about Pamela is she recently learned how to mow with a bat winged mower at her Solid Waste Facility.

Pamela’s first concert was Kenny Chesney at Wild Adventures. Her last book, was Nothing Can Separate Us from the Love of God by Jesten Peters. Who needs a bucket list when you already have a trip scheduled? For later this year, Pamela has a cruise booked to the Bahamas. And, in case you wanted to know (we know you do), she cannot live without her cell phone.

Thank you, Pamela, for taking the time to share with us!

Do you know someone that should be **In the Spotlight**? Let us know and we will be happy to interview and showcase them.