



Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Contact: [Alia Faraj-Johnson](#) 850-212-8317

**Statement by Florida Mosquito Control Association President Richard Weaver
Re: Critical funding increase for mosquito control in Florida**

Tallahassee, FL -"On behalf of the state's 67 mosquito control programs, including the 15 independent mosquito control districts, I extend the FMCA's sincere appreciation to the Florida House and Senate for their support of Governor Ron DeSantis' recommendation increasing funding that supports our work by investing in smaller programs without raising taxes. By bolstering support for smaller mosquito control programs, state leaders have underscored their commitment to safeguarding public health and our communities.

"We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Florida Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson for his continued support and for championing efforts to provide mosquito control programs with the best tools available.

"Controlling mosquitoes and the diseases they carry is critical in protecting Floridians and visitors as well as our economy. Success is never final when battling "the world's most deadly animal," and our state is experiencing a rapidly increasing risk of diseases being spread by invasive species.

"We are grateful for the support of the Legislature and their smart investment that will continue to protect the health and well-being of every Floridian."

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To learn more about the FMCA, please [click here](#).

Background related to the increase in funding:

- The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Mosquito Control Program provides supplemental funding to small and medium-sized mosquito control agencies around the state.
- The funding comes from the state Department of Environmental Protection's Solid Waste Management Trust Fund, which is funded by a \$1 fee on each new tire sold in the state.