



For Immediate Release

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

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

Statement by Florida Mosquito Control Association President Richard Weaver

**Re: Governor Signing Budget with Increased Funding
for Medium and Small Mosquito Control Programs**

Tallahassee, FL – “Florida’s economy and the health of its residents and visitors hinge on effectively managing the risk of deadly diseases transmitted by mosquitoes.

“On behalf of the state’s 67 mosquito control programs, including the 15 independent mosquito control districts, we thank Governor Ron DeSantis for signing the budget today which included additional funding for medium and small mosquito control programs across the state.

“This budget includes a \$1 million increase in funding, with no increases in taxes or fees, that will directly help medium and smaller mosquito control programs secure the necessary workforce and equipment necessary to combat the ‘world’s deadliest animal.’

“As national weather forecasters expect an active hurricane season, these funds will be put to good use, helping enhance the efforts and control methods used by dedicated mosquito control professionals over the course of mosquito season.

“Mosquitoes don’t recognize county boundaries, and this recurring investment, the first increase in over a decade, will help to ensure that all Floridians, businesses, and visitors can enjoy our state’s unparalleled natural beauty.

"We also thank the Florida Legislature and Florida Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson, whose support and in-depth knowledge of mosquito control benefits our entire state."

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.
- This recurring \$1 million increase required no change in taxes or fees.

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