

LEE COUNTY

MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



May, 2014

Important Calendar Dates:

May 4—7th: AMCA Spring Mtg., Seattle

May 8th: Board Mtg., 10:00 am

May 27th: Supervisors' Mtg., 2:30 pm

May 29th: Safety Mtg., 7:30 am

From Kevin Watts' desk: Lee County Hyacinth Control recently acquired an aquatic weed harvester. It was immediately deployed into service at Rutenberg Park's Stormwater Retention Pond. This clean-up is a joint effort with Lee County Parks and Recreation Dept. to help improve the health and aesthetics of Lee County's public water bodies. The park's pond has an enormous amount of floating vegetation and herbicide applications were not the preferred method due to large amounts of decaying biomass and chronically low oxygen conditions. The harvester will serve a multitude of tasks for our integrated management program, especially in conditions when immediate visual results are desired.



The Spring Regulatory EPA Tour of Lee County Mosquito and Hyacinth Control Districts was held March 28, 2014. Dr. Jon Hornby gave a mosquito presentation on Beautiful Island and John Cassani and Kevin Watts gave the aquatic demonstration at Harnes Marsh. The yard tour was conducted by Exec. Dir., T. Wayne Gale. Jim Burgess and Katie Heggemeier presented "*Mosquito Operations*," Neil Wilkinson gave an overview of aquatic systems and the tours was led by Shelly Redovan and Brian Cotterill.

The EPA visitors and district personnel attended an answer and question session after the tours.



Shelly Redovan did the yearly "Right to Know" and "Hazardous Operations" training for all of our full-time pilots and part-time pilots, April 24th.

This training is essential to review, discuss and talk over all the salient points for a safe year in mosquito control. Shelly has trained all personnel at our Districts over the last two months before the mosquito season is upon us.

2014 Field Activity

ACRES TREATED	GROUND ADULTICIDING	AERIAL ADULTICIDING	GROUND LARVICIDING	AERIAL LARVICIDING	SERVICE REQUESTS
January	4,643.4	0.0	1.1	0.0	17.0
February	7,240.3	0.0	35.0	1,166.2	57.0
March	2,213.2	0.0	11.6	1,902.5	50.0
April	17,845.0	0.0	24.1	427.0	124.0
May					199.0
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
Y-T-D Totals					



April 9th, Rita Maiss gave a presentation to Cape Coral Rotarians, highlighting her aviation career. As an invited Rotarian guest, LCMCD Exec. Director, Wayne Gale sat beside former LCMCD Commissioner Paul Sanborn. Rita illustrated her piloting history using snapshots, beginning with some during War-rant Officer Flight Training at Rucker and Alabama. Additional photos captured in Virginia, West Virginia, Chicago, Germany, Cyprus, Beirut, Bolivia, and the Middle East added interest to her twenty minute presentation. The last several minutes were devoted to her flying duties here at the district. Rita included a short video depicting her most recent granular spraying function. Questions from the audience indicated a clear interest in the district's aviation assets and spray procedures. Finally, toward the end of her visit, Rita was asked the question she encounters most frequently around Lee County: "If I give you my address, will you please spray over *my* house?"

James Burgess, the Regional Representative for the Southwest Region of the FMCA and Exec. Dir. T. Wayne Gale held a regional meeting April 11th at our District. Joel Jacobson, Citrus Co.; Barbara Bayce, Manatee Co. Beth Kovach, Charlotte, Alan Johnson DeSoto Co. Health, Mike Greer Pasco Co., Brian Lawton/Jason Stuck/Leanne Lake Pinellas Co., Gene Lemire Martin County; Candace Royal Valent Biosciences, Mel Whitson, Central Life Sciences, Chris Lesser Manatee Co.; Exec. Dir. T. Wayne Gale, Shelly Redovan, Brian Cotterill, Tom Miller, Milton Sterling, Brian Murphy; Lee Co., and Jennifer Roth, Lee Co. Health Dept., Jim Starke, Marion Broullard, Collier Co. The main reason for this meeting was should anybody in our region have a case of Dengue or Chikungunya would we have a rapid response team in place to handle these viruses? We discussed how much personnel would be needed along with how much equipment would be needed. How would our communities react to the threat of Dengue or Chikungunya and what type of extensive public relations and information would be needed. This meeting of Districts was very informative and successful.