

LEE COUNTY MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



Newsletter

June, 2011

Future Important Dates for your Calendars:

June 3rd: Safety Meeting

June 9th: Board Meeting

June 13-16: FASD Mtg. Key Largo

Sept. 14th: Employee Flu Shots—7:30 am—9:00 am



New Safety Device: The District has recently purchased a new GPS Tracking Device for each pilot called SPOT. This device sends a position report via satellite every ten minutes while it is in service. The location data is stored on a web site that can be accessed by LCMCD managers to determine the last known location of each pilot in the field on a given day. The tracking feature of these GPS units allows us to know the last location of each pilot/aircraft should a problem develop and the pilot does not have the time or the ability to make a radio or cell phone call.

Another feature is the ability to send a message requesting assistance. With the press of a button, a message is initiated by the pilot and will be transmitted to 10 email/cell phones at LCMCD. The message contains a link that gives the location on *Google Maps* or *Google Earth*. In the event of an accident or medical emergency, the device can be used to send a message (along with the location) to 911.

The pilots are very appreciative of the District's purchase of the SPOT GPS units and see it as a great safety feature. Many of the areas we frequent are lacking in cell-phone coverage and something as simple as a dead battery can be a major communications issue.



Pictured above is Bob Harper holding a Ball Python. This visitor was squiggling its way through the East/West Runway. It was spotted by two residents from the Airpark. Apparently the turkey buzzards took care of the remains.

RiverHall Elementary School, in Buckingham, had their *Career Day* on May 26th. Mosquito and Hyacinth Control Districts participated with a Huey helicopter and an airboat for display and education. Rita Maiss, Thurbie Botterill, Wayne Luetlich and Don Altenburg attended the Huey and Jeremy Ford explained how the airboat functions.



Field Activity — 2011

ACRES TREATED	GROUND ADULTICIDING	AERIAL ADULTICIDING	GROUND LARVICIDING	AERIAL LARVICIDING	SERVICE REQUESTS
January	0.0	0.0	7.4	84.9	6.0
February	11,009.8	0.0	16.0	1,446.9	79.0
March	6,272.4	14,783.5	20.3	2,931.0	69.0
April	44,439.7	36,860.4	29.6	1,667.8	542.0
May					1,693.0
June					
July					
August					

The FGCU Aquatic Systems/Mosquito Education interns recently visited the Lee County Mosquito and Hyacinth Control headquarters. Along with Ernesto's FGCU summer intern, Alex, they participated in an aerial surveillance tour of the mosquito hotspots in the county led by Bryan Smith and, Don Doggett provided an airboat tour of problem areas for hyacinth on the Caloosahatchee. In addition, Shelly Redovan and Brian Cotterill gave a tour of the facility, explaining the various roles and responsibilities of each of the departments. It was a memorable learning experience and an exciting end-of-semester wrap-up for our interns, who have all played integral roles in the Aquatic Systems/Mosquito Education program.



Aquatic technician, Keith Andreu, assisted in the collection and presentation of aquatic plant species at the Aquatic Plant Control Short Course, plant identification session, May 3-5 in Coral Springs. Deputy Director, John Cassani, gave a presentation on grass carp.



Director T. Wayne Gale, Deputy Director Shelly Redovan and Commissioners Pat Mann and Sarah Larsen participated in the American Mosquito Control Association's Washington D.C. Conference from May 8 through 11 to educate house and senate members on issues pertinent to mosquito control. Along with other Florida Mosquito Control Association delegates, the Lee County representatives met with Florida congressional staffers on issues regarding funding appropriations for public health pesticide registrations, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mosquito control policy, and reducing the regulatory duplication imposed by NPDES permits.

June 18th—FPL will be cutting power to our entire site from 8:00 am—3:00 pm.

As of June 3rd, "**No Rain in the Gauge**" as Sonny says on our web site video, lcmcd.org