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Florida Keys Mosquito Control District Mobilized to Combat Dengue Fever Cases in Monroe County

The Florida Keys Mosquito Control District (FKMCD) has activated its proven mosquito-borne disease RESPONSE plan to address the recently confirmed cases of Dengue Fever in Key Largo, the organization announced Friday.

The Florida Department of Health in Monroe County announced that at least **eight** additional people have recently tested positive for Dengue Fever, which is spread by the female *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.

As soon as FKMCD is notified by the Health Department of a suspected case for any mosquito-borne disease, FKMCD springs into immediate action utilizing the following control methods:

- Door to Door inspection and treatment of every residence and business in a three (3) block radius from the suspected case location and/or other outdoor areas visited.
- Any adult and/or larval mosquitoes found are treated on the spot.
- Truck and/or aerial adulticide treatments are conducted throughout the areas of concern to reduce the mosquito population.
- Placement of mosquito traps in the area to monitor the *Aedes aegypti* population. Collected mosquitoes are subsequently tested for mosquito-borne diseases.

Public awareness is a **critical** line of defense in the fight against mosquito-borne disease. Homeowners can do their part by taking a few simple steps to remove potential breeding sites:

- Eliminate any standing water by turning over and removing empty pots, buckets, trash cans, recycle bins, pet bowls and children's toys.
- Check tarps on boats or equipment and make sure gutters are clean.
- Flush fresh water into bromeliads, hanging plants, and bird feeders.

In addition, homeowners can avoid being infected by suspect mosquitoes if they prevent bites by wearing long sleeved shirts and pants, utilize a proven mosquito repellent with Deet and keep mosquitoes out of their residence by making sure that doors and windows are closed and screens free of tears or holes.

To place a service request with FKMCD, visit www.keysmosquito.org or call 305-292-7190.

About the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District

The mission of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District is to control the mosquito population using the most effective methods, techniques, equipment and insecticides; thus enhancing the quality of life for all residents and reducing the possibility of mosquito transmitted diseases.

Follow FKMCD on Twitter at [@FlKeysMosquito](https://twitter.com/FlKeysMosquito) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FlKeysMosquito). For more information about the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District, please visit www.keysmosquito.org.

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