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July 13, 2020

FKMCD Utilizes School Stadium as Temporary Helicopter Landing Zone as Dengue Effort Intensifies

The Florida Keys Mosquito Control District (FKMCD) is using the stadium at Key Largo School as a makeshift landing and loading zone as part of the agency's enhanced response to multiple cases of Dengue Fever in the area.

FKMCD says it is able to use the stadium thanks to timely approval by the local school board.

By using the temporary Landing Zone, FKMCD is able to maximize its time in the area providing mosquito treatments as opposed to flying to and from regular landing zones which are miles away. All efforts are being made to minimize any disruption to summer school functions and other activities.

It is estimated that FKMCD helicopters will utilize the stadium approximately two times per week during the next four to six weeks.

FKMCD will also use the field to re-fill the helicopter with a liquid larvicide product that is being utilized to thwart breeding sites of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito which is responsible for the spread of Dengue Fever.

The liquid larvicide utilized by the district is a form of Bti or *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* which is a naturally occurring soil bacterium mixed with water and applied as

a fine mist. Bti has **NO** effect on non-target organisms when utilized in the manner employed by FKMCD.

In addition to the aerial larvicide missions, FKMCD continues its enhanced Key Largo Dengue response which includes door to door canvassing by FKMCD inspectors to help eliminate mosquito breeding sites and aerial and ground spraying for adult mosquitoes.

You can read more about Bti and the other control measures utilized by the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District by visiting the website: keysmosquito.org.

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

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