

Mosquito Abatement Quick Guide

Please review the following guidelines for reimbursement of mosquito abatement costs you may incur as a result of a disaster. The North Carolina Emergency Management Agency (NCEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) are providing this information early in an effort to maximize applicant opportunities for federal reimbursement of eligible mosquito abatement activities following a Presidential Declaration. Take the necessary actions to prevent a health and safety threat as soon as possible, but know the rules for reimbursement.

1. The Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide, Version 3.1 (FP 104-009-2/April 2018, page 72) states:

- a. Mosquito abatement measures may be eligible when a State, Territorial, Tribal, or local government public health official validates in writing that a mosquito population poses a specific health threat as discussed further in Appendix G: Mosquito Abatement. FEMA consults with the CDC to determine the eligibility of mosquito abatement activities. FEMA only provides PA funding for the increased cost of mosquito abatement. This is the amount that exceeds the average amount based on the last 3 years of expenses for the same period.
- b. To be eligible for Public Assistance (PA) funding, insecticide formulations must be among those approved and registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use in urban areas for mosquito control, and must be applied according to label directions and precautions by appropriately trained and certified applicators. Furthermore, mosquito abatement measures must comply with all Federal, State, Territorial, and local laws, ordinances, and regulations concerning vector control.

2. Eligibility Requirements

You must be an Eligible Applicant as defined in the Public Assistance Program Policy Guide (page 9) and have the legal responsibility (page 20) to perform mosquito abatement. <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance>. The FEMA mosquito abatement guidance may be found in Appendix G (pages 184-185).

3. Procedure and Documentation Requirements

- a. **Before spraying**, collect trap data or landing rates (for adulticide use) or dip data (for larvicide use) to verify the hazard.
- b. **Before spraying**, contact FEMA EHP Point of Contact (#5 below) to identify spray exclusions areas due to the presence of endangered or threatened or critical habitat.
- c. Obtain a letter from the county health department indicating the presence of a serious health threat or a mosquito nuisance that is severely hampering the recovery effort.
- d. Follow manufacturer's label on EPA-approved chemicals for mosquito abatement by certified employees. The pesticide also must be registered in NC by the NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS). Provide documentation of the chemical, application method and concentration used.
- e. For aerial spraying, check with NCDA&CS Pesticide Section to make sure the plane and pilot are in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations of the NC Pesticide Law.
- f. Provide spray or larvicide area maps detailing the zones affected/treated.
- g. Provide date(s) of application.

4. Do not delay

- a. Start collecting data as soon as a potential threat is identified to establish a baseline trap, landing rate, or dip count. Data is only valid for a period of two weeks.
- b. Counties or communities that do not have a mosquito abatement program may request technical assistance with surveillance and personal protective measures from the North Carolina Division of Public Health by viewing https://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/diseases/mosquito_spray.html or contact the Raleigh office at 919-733-3419.

5. Points of Contact

For more information, please contact: Michael Doyle at 919-546-1637 (michael.doyle@dhhs.nc.gov) or Carl Williams 919-546-1660 (carl.williams@dhhs.nc.gov), or email FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov and cc Chelsea Klein at Chelsea.Klein@fema.dhs.gov.