

October 25, 2005

## **Hurricanes Katrina and Rita FEMA-DR-1603/1607- LA Information Sheet - #011**

### **Mosquito Abatement Costs Guidance for Reimbursement**

The hurricanes have caused a dramatic increase in mosquito population in areas inhabited by people. When there is a serious health hazard caused by the mosquitoes, emergency protective measures that are necessary to eliminate or reduce an immediate threat to life, public health, and safety may be eligible for reimbursement by FEMA.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) and the United States Public Health Service Communicable Diseases Center (CDC) have roles in establishing the eligibility of costs under the FEMA Public Assistance Program.

Mosquito control districts, or parishes, must submit requests for approval of mosquito control work to LDHH (Kyle Moppert, the State Medical Entomologist). LDHH will consult with CDC, as appropriate, when reviewing the requests. LDHH will forward requests and determinations to LA OHSEP, and a copy of the determination to the individual applicant. Applicants should submit documentation for mosquito control expenditures to the FEMA Project Officer in their parish documenting Emergency Costs. FEMA requires that chemicals and methods used in vector control meet the approval of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Abatement measures must comply with all State and local laws, ordinances, and regulations concerning vector control.

#### Eligible Costs

1. Normally budgeted costs for mosquito control are not eligible for FEMA reimbursement. However, incremental costs over normal budget may be eligible.
2. Among the costs that may be claimed are: extra personnel costs, extra supplies, and extra chemicals needed to accomplish eligible work. Costs must be properly documented. FEMA publications and the FEMA project officer can help the applicant with documenting eligible costs.

## Cost-Share

- Until November 26, 2005 (the end of the 90 day approval of 100% funding) – FEMA will reimburse eligible incremental costs at the rate of 100% under Category B work for Hurricane Katrina.
  - After that date (or a new date if the period is extended) - FEMA will reimburse 90% of eligible incremental costs.
3. When mosquito control measures are determined to be needed through the LDHH and CDC process described above, eligible incremental costs will be eligible State-wide for the duration of the approved emergency work, normally no longer than six months from the date of the disaster.
  4. Purchases (instead of rental) need to be established as cost effective in order to be funded. Provisions of FEMA Public Assistance Policy 9525.12, “Disposition of Equipment, Supplies and Salvaged Materials” will apply to purchases made for the hurricane response.
  5. Incremental costs for contract services (aerial adulticiding, ground adulticiding, larvaciding, and surveillance) may be claimed.
  6. FEMA is permitted to fund incremental costs over normal costs for mosquito surveillance services to provide information on mosquito densities and to check efficacy of control efforts. On the principle that FEMA may fund searches for eligible work only when the search reveals eligible work, the applicant should be cautious in obligating itself to a long-range program. If FEMA funding is going to be requested, surveillance should be done only in short phases and only when it can be directly related to mosquito increases due to the hurricanes.
  7. Mosquito abatement is not an eligible cost when its purpose is to control animal exposure to mosquitoes.

\* \* \*

*Because this document is not exhaustive, either in topics or in detail, information should be verified with FEMA Public Assistance Program officials before becoming the basis for decision making.*