
Bradford County Mosquito Surveillance Team

The Buzz Busters is a volunteer group of citizens that helps the Bradford County Mosquito Control by monitoring mosquito populations in the county. The Bradford County Buzz Busters donated 1,934 hours volunteer hours between 2006 and 2015.

The Buzz Busters truly help our citizens! Over the years volunteers several adult and larval trapping events in the county. Based on estimates from a private mosquito control company, the estimated value of adult and larval trapping events is \$228,229 from 2007 to 2015.

The Buzz Busters use a pest control strategy called Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Using IPM means gathering information about a pest problem and using that information to select the best possible control strategy.

The Buzz Busters are supported by many agencies, including the Bradford Board of County Commissioners, Bradford County Mosquito Control, Bradford Soil and Water Conservation District, University of Florida Integrated Pest Management, University of Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory and the Bradford County Extension Service.

What exactly do the Buzz Busters do? The volunteers use modern trapping techniques to monitor the adult and juvenile mosquito populations within their assigned zone. The trapped mosquitoes are used in a variety of ways.

First, if a body of water has a large enough population of juvenile mosquito larvae, they are treated using eco-friendly insecticides. This is an efficient way to kill mosquito populations since they are harder to target once they are airborne.

Second, if enough adults are collected in an overnight trap the county is notified about the high population and they will spray insecticides on a rotating schedule. Most mosquitoes are identified by trained volunteers at the local Extension office. It is good to know what kinds of mosquitoes are found in the county since the type of mosquitoes present determines the potential diseases humans, livestock and birds might be exposed to.

Updated 8/4/16

Call Jim DeValerio at 904-966-6299 for information regarding *The Buzz Busters*
