



# Annual Report

Oct 2024 - Sept 2025





## Director's Letter

THE DISTRICT HAD A GOOD YEAR. WE MET OR EXCEEDED MOST OF OUR PERFORMANCE MEASURES, INCLUDING SAFETY, HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT; OPERATIONS; ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE; PUBLIC OUTREACH; AND TRAINING. NOTABLE STRENGTHS INCLUDE HIGH EQUIPMENT READINESS, STRONG COMPLIANCE ACTIVITY, TIMELY CONSTITUENT RESPONSE, AND COMPREHENSIVE SURVEILLANCE. IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES WERE TARGETED AND ARE MANAGEABLE. THERE WAS A SMALL SHORTFALL IN ADULT MOSQUITO SAMPLING, A MISSED SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING DURING OUR NEW BUILDING MOVE, TWO OSHA-RECORDABLE INCIDENTS (ONE LOST-DAY CASE), AND GAPS IN EVENTS... ALL THINGS THAT HAVE EASY REMEDIES.

*Darrin Dunwald, Director*

As I reflect on the past fiscal year at the South Walton Mosquito District, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude and pride for the dedicated team, valued community partners, and engaged residents who make our work possible. Serving as Director of this organization is both a privilege and a responsibility, and I sincerely appreciate the trust placed in us to protect public health and enhance the quality of life throughout our community.

Over the past year, our team has continued to advance innovative mosquito surveillance and control strategies, while strengthening our Integrated Mosquito Management program through data-driven, science-based decision-making. We have also expanded our public education and outreach efforts, enhancing transparency and fostering meaningful connections with the residents we serve. These accomplishments are grounded in our core values—Integrity, Accountability, Public Service, and Education—which guide every aspect of our operations.

Looking ahead, I remain optimistic about the future of the District. We are committed to proactive approaches that adapt to environmental changes, emerging mosquito-borne disease risks, and the evolving needs of South Walton. Our strategic direction emphasizes operational excellence, environmental stewardship, community engagement, and continuous professional development for our staff.

I am continually inspired by the professionalism and expertise of our team, the collaboration of our partners, and the support of our residents. Together, we will continue to build a healthier, safer, and more informed community. Thank you for your continued trust and confidence in the South Walton Mosquito District as we carry out our mission with excellence and integrity.

**Darrin Dunwald, Director**  
South Walton Mosquito District



# Table of Contents

<b>OUR MISSION &amp; VISION</b>	<b>Pg. 04</b>
<b>OUR COMMISSIONERS &amp; TEAM</b>	<b>Pg. 05-06</b>
<b>PERFORMANCE MEASURES</b>	
<b>SAFETY, HEALTH &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL</b>	<b>Pg. 07</b>
<b>OPERATIONS</b>	
Surveillance	Pg. 08
Service Requests	Pg. 08
Adulticide	Pg. 09
Larvicide	Pg. 09
Source Reduction/Ditch Operations	Pg. 10
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	
Finance	<b>Pg. 11</b>
Public Outreach	<b>Pg. 12</b>
Training	<b>Pg. 13</b>
<b>FINAL THOUGHTS</b>	<b>Pg. 14</b>





#### **OUR COMMITMENT**

We are committed to a transparent, fiscally responsible process that ensures sound planning, public engagement, and sustainable funding for the future.

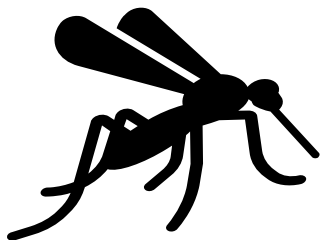
## ***Our Mission***

---

To serve the District by suppressing both pestiferous and disease carrying mosquito populations to a tolerable level in the safest, most economical manner, utilizing a variety of methods in such a way as to minimize potential effects on people, wildlife and the environment while maximizing the value to the district's taxpayers.

## ***Our Vision***

---



The South Walton County Mosquito Control District is the role model for other mosquito control districts. The District has a dedicated, motivated workforce of employees who support each other and the mission of the District and thus create a stimulating and rewarding work environment.

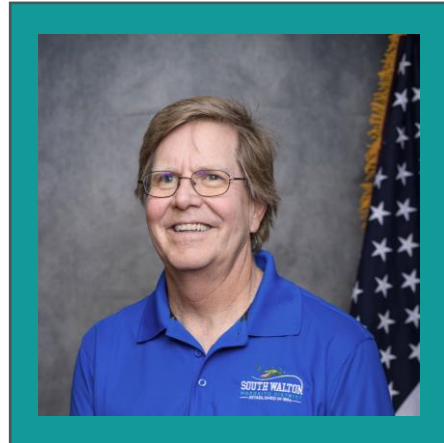
# Board of Commissioners

---



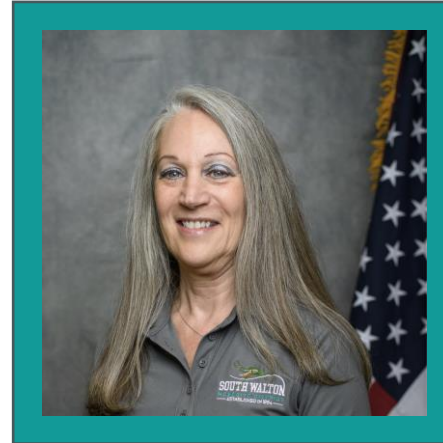
**Doug Liles**

Commissioner Seat 1  
*Serving since January 2021*



**Steve Young**

Commissioner Seat 2  
*Serving since April 2023*



**Kristine Faulk**

Commissioner Seat 3  
*Serving since April 2018*

Board of Commissioners  
Monthly Meeting

Third Thursday of every  
month at 10am  
(with some exceptions)

South Walton Mosquito  
District  
774 N. County Hwy 393  
Santa Rosa Beach

# Our Team

## AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

**Malcolm Gladwell Tipping Point Award**

**FMCA Innovate Awards (\$30,000 Award)**

Darrin Dunwald, Director



### **Malcolm Gladwell Tipping Point recipient.**

This special designation honors trailblazers who have challenged the status quo and sparked transformative change within their organizations through strategic pivots, innovative ideas, and bold actions.

## SERVICE MILESTONE

**5 Years of Service**

Gerry Williams, Operations Manager



# Safety, Health & Environment



## Safety

- Hold 1 monthly safety committee meeting
- Hold 2 monthly safety employee meetings
- Conduct 10 monthly safety inspections
- Conduct annual fire extinguisher inspection on all equipment
- Document and investigate recordable OSHA incidents, if any



- 1 missed committee meeting due to move
- 27 employee meetings held
- 142 safety inspections conducted
- Full fire extinguisher inspection completed
- 2 OSHA incidents documented and investigated (2 WC cases; 1 missed day)



## Health

- Record the number of SWMD cases of mosquito-borne diseases
- Compare the number of SWMD cases to the number of cases in nearby districts across the Gulf Coast



- No human cases of mosquito-borne disease in SWMD
- Cases in nearby districts:
  - Bay: 1
  - Escambia: 6
  - Santa Rosa: 1



## Environment

- Record the number of spills per DEP regulations
- Conduct annual calibration of all adulticide application equipment
- Conduct annual calibration of all larvicide equipment

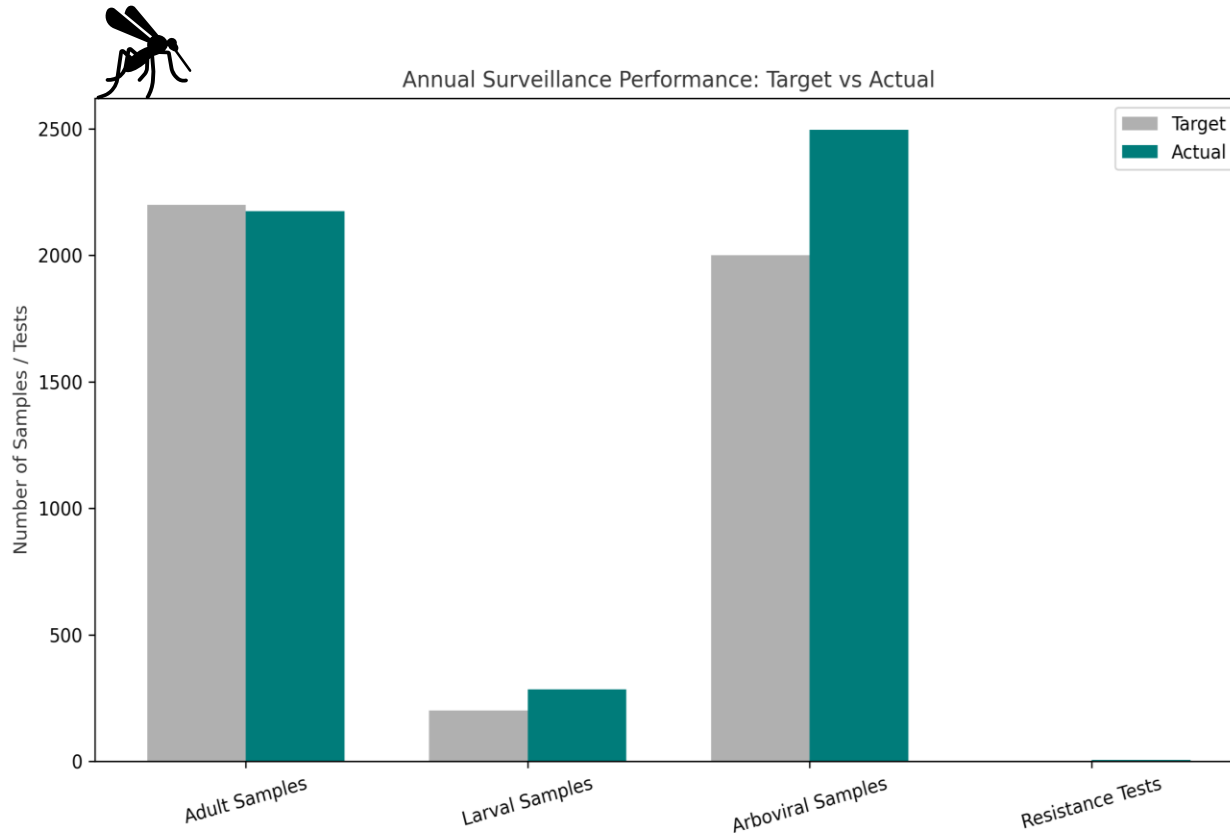


- No spills reported
- Adulticide equipment was calibrated
- Larvicide equipment was calibrated

# OPERATIONS: Surveillance

## Surveillance Program Performance

In 2025, the District met or exceeded all major surveillance goals (except one). Sample identification was completed within one business day for 100% of submissions, while arboviral surveillance and resistance testing significantly surpassed annual targets—strengthening early detection and response efforts.



# OPERATIONS: Service Requests



# 188

## Service Requests Completed

- Constituent contacted within 2 hours
- Service completed within 1 business day

GOALS	RESULTS
Collect and identify 2,200 adult mosquito samples annually	2,174
Collect and identify 200 larval samples annually	285
Identify sample collections within one business day	Achieved
Perform/participate in 1 annual resistance test	5 tests
Collect and process 2,000 arboviral samples annually	2,496

## OPERATIONS: *Larvicide*

- Always maintain >80% equipment operational readiness
- Truck: Liquid Larvicide
- Treat roadside ditches/observed standing water after rain events
- Perform larvicide missions when abnormal standing water is present and justified with larval samples
- Ground Applied: Granular Larvicide
- Treat 5k< source sites annually before larva infestations take place
- Aerial (UAS/Drone) Applied Granular Larvicide
- Treat 300 inaccessible larval habitats annually

### RESULTS

- Equipment readiness: 85% average
- Ditch/standing-water treatments executed after >2" rain and when justified by samples
- Source Sites
  - Inspected 6,302 (exceeded 5k goal)
  - Treated: 2,980 (dry year conditions)
- UAS/Drone (Inaccessible habitats)
  - 500 inspected (exceeded goal of 300)
  - 200 treated (dry year conditions)

## OPERATIONS: *Adulticide*

- Schedule missions as per F.S. 5E-13.036, or vector concern is high
- Complete > 90% of all scheduled missions
- Always maintain >75% equipment operational readiness



# OPERATIONS: *Source Reduction/Ditch Operations*

---

- Mosquito Control Ditches: 44 Ditches (40 miles)
- Always maintain >50% equipment operational readiness
- Mow > 40 miles of Mosquito Control Ditches annually
- Mechanically remove aquatic vegetation that reduces flow annually
- Inspect all Mosquito Control Ditches after any >2” rain event
- Repair any minor damage from November-March
- Repair any major damage within 30 days
- Equipment readiness averaged 96.75%
- 184.36 miles mowed (goal >30 miles)
- Vegetation removal completed
- Post-storm inspections conducted
- Minor and major repairs completed within required windows.



# ADMINISTRATION: Finance

- Update the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan by June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Research District needs by the department for the next fiscal year
- Review the prior 4-year Plan for changes
- Prepare a Capital Improvement Plan draft for the management to review
- Present Capital Improvement Plan to the Commissioners and Director
- Maintain Capital Budget as per approved plan
- Submit the Detailed Budget for FDACs by July 15th
- Assess District needs by the department for the next fiscal year
- Hold 2 public workshops with the Commissioners to provide additional info for taxpayers and the public
- Post Detailed Budget on website.
- Post the Certified Budget on the website by September 30th
- Hold 2 TRIM meetings for the public to provide information on millage rate and budget with Commissioners present
- Submit a Certified Budget to FDACS by September 30th
- Track potential grants/appropriations for special projects
- Research potential funding sources for the District
- Annually review the cost associated with grants and appropriations
- Annually review total funding sources
- Review findings with the Director for approval
- Present finalized proposals to the Commissioners for approval



## RESULTS

Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan successfully updated and adopted.

Detailed and certified budgets submitted on schedule and posted for public access.

Two TRIM meetings and two public workshops conducted, supporting public transparency and engagement.

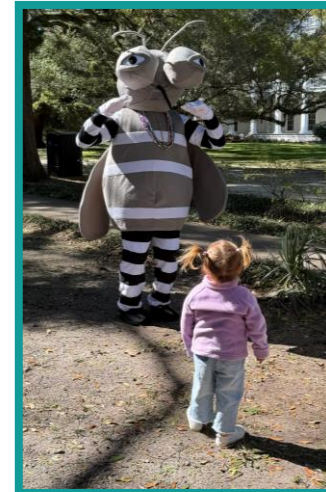
Capital budget maintained and departmental needs assessed for future planning.

Grant and appropriation tracking system established to support special projects and long-term funding strategies.

Following the rejection of a federal-level funding pathway, alternative public-health funding opportunities—including AI-assisted research—are actively being pursued.

# ADMINISTRATION: *Public Outreach*

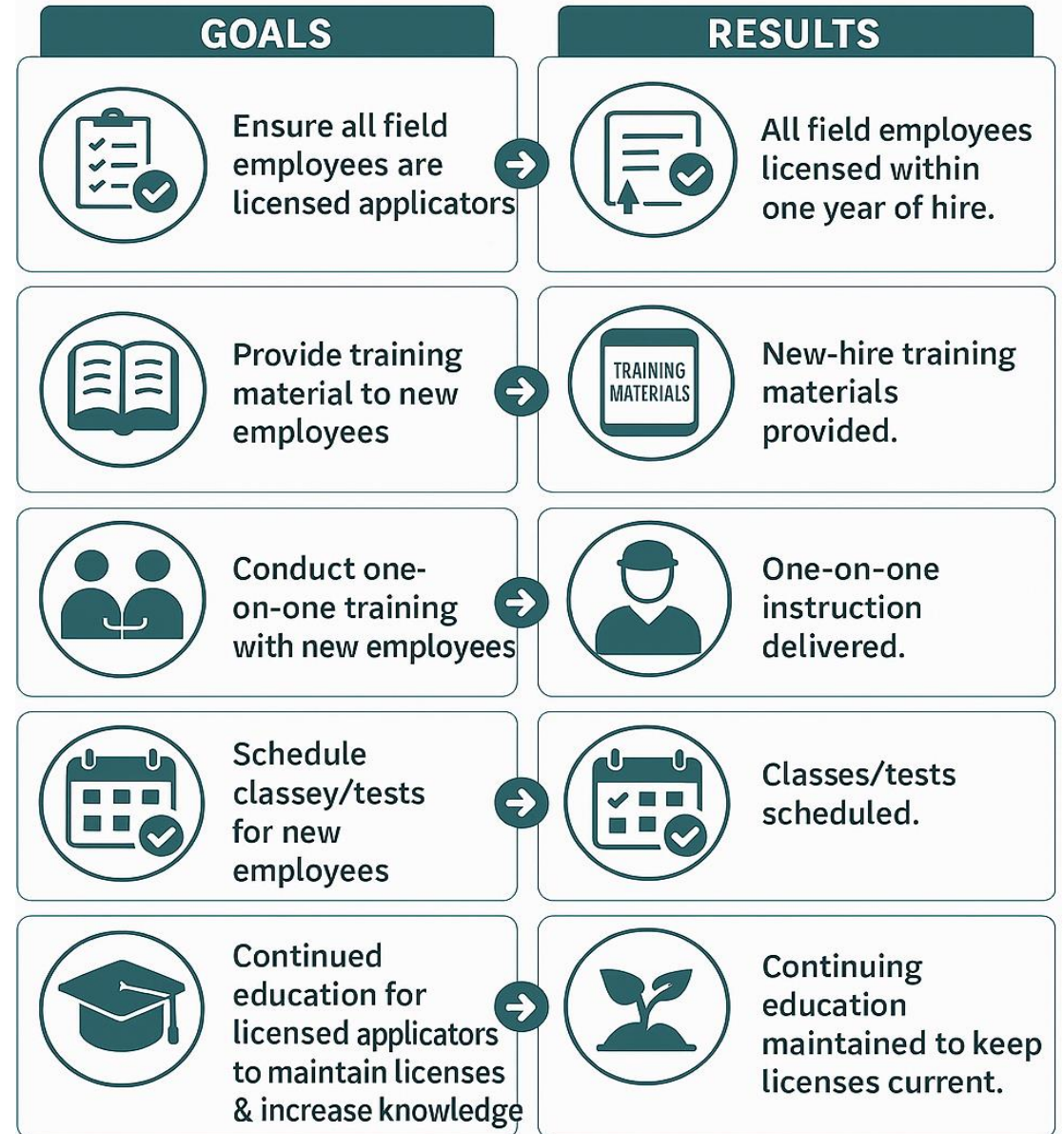
- Increase community presence annually
- Track the number of events and presentatic
  - HOA/state park events
  - Community events
  - Schools attended
- Grow social media presence and followers annually
- Engage constituents through various social media platforms
- Review YouTube for improved visibility and messaging
- Post appealing content weekly on social media outlets
- Provide new informational content monthly on social media out
- Measure monthly website traffic
- Perform event assessments
- Track the number of attendees at the event
- Offer a QR Code for attendees to survey events
- Provide QR Code for teachers for event survey
- Provide quarterly updates to the board



## RESULTS

- Board updates: 4 (quarterly).
- Events: HOA/state parks 3, community 3, schools 1
- Social media presence has grown with weekly posts and monthly new content
- YouTube has been reviewed for visibility
- Assessment gaps: monthly website traffic not measured and event attendee counts not measured
- QR surveys offered to attendees and to teachers to capture feedback

# ADMINISTRATION: *Training*



In summary, our operational readiness and compliance remain strong, surveillance efforts are robust, and administrative responsibilities were completed on schedule. In the next cycle, we will focus on:

- Closing the remaining adult-sample gap
- Building redundancy to ensure safety meetings continue uninterrupted during transitions
- Formalizing outreach analytics, including web and event attendance tracking
- Diversifying funding sources following the recent federal-level setback

Thank you for your continued commitment and strong work ethic. We are confident that next year will build on this year's success, and we look forward to working together to achieve even greater results.



### PLANNING AHEAD

Strategic long-term planning to meet current and future needs.



### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Open communication and opportunities for public input.



### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Careful stewardship of resources and compliance with requirements.



### STRONGER FUTURE

Investing today to build a healthier, more resilient community.

**South Walton Mosquito District**

**774 N. County Hwy 393**

**Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459**

**(850) 267-2112**

**[www.southwaltonmosquitocontrol.org](http://www.southwaltonmosquitocontrol.org)**



CONTACT US