

The Skeeter



Newsletter of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association

Volume 75, No. 4 November, 2015

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President's Message

The 2015 mosquito season is quickly coming to an end for most of Virginia: surveillance traps are being stored away, spray machines winterized, dippers hung up, and interns sent back to their classrooms. For those of you that are sad the mosquito populations are slowly dwindling, just remember that the joys of snow shoveling and winter ditch cleaning are right around the corner. However your 2015 season and off-season end up, I hope it was and will be a successful one.



Jay Kiser VMCA President 2015

I hope everyone is planning to join us for VMCA's 69th annual meeting this coming January 26th-28th, 2016. Don't forget that these meeting days are Tuesday through Thursday; a new format from past years. The meeting will be held at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel in downtown Portsmouth Virginia. Enclosed in this edition of the Skeeter are the VMCA membership and annual meeting registration forms. Josh Smith, VMCA's current President Elect, has also included a call for presentations. We ask you to please help fill the agenda by giving a presentation during this meeting.

VMCA's annual recertification class will be held this coming January 14th, 2016 at the Hampton Library. Categories being covered at the class will be 8 (Public Health Pest Control), 6 (Right of Way), 60 (Registered Technician), and, new this year, 7B (general pest). More information can be found below. I hope everyone that needs recertification can attend.

The annual TMVCC oyster roast will take place on November 18th, 2015 at the Chesapeake Mosquito Control office at 900 Hollowell Lane with festivities starting at 11am. I want to thank everyone again for putting in so much effort to make VMCA what it is. Most of all, I appreciate all the hard work put forth by our committees and executive board. I encourage anyone interested to join a committee during our annual meeting in January. I look forward to seeing you all in the next few months.

Jay Kiser, VMCA President

Announcements

Upcoming meetings

Entomology Society of America Annual Meeting

November 15-18, 2015 Minneapolis, MN

VMCA Recertification Course

January 14, 2016 Hampton, VA

Virginia Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting

January 26-28, 2016 Portsmouth, VA

American Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting

February 7-11, 2016 Savannah, GA

Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting

March 30-April 1, 2016 Nashville, TN

Have information on a meeting that may be of interest to VMCA members?

Attend a meeting and want to submit a summary?
Send it to the editor!





January 26-28th, 2016

Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel

What's That?



(answer on page 6)

VMCA organizational mailing address Send all forms to this address.

Virginia Mosquito Control Association Penelope Smelser, Secretary/Treasurer 2800 Tarrant Street Norfolk, VA 23509 Phone (757) 683-8662 Email Penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov

Fall Legislative Update

One great resource for legislative issues that impact professional mosquito control is the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA) web page. Check out http://www.mosquito.org/ and under the "Legislation" tab, click on "Position Papers." Position Papers outline the issue at hand, provide background and discussion, and highlight needed action. As part of an initial investigation, these are a great introduction to legislative issues that impact our industry.

Two legislative issues that are currently on the forefront are as follows:

- Legislation to fix the NPDES permit requirement for pesticide applications to waters of the US
- EPA Pesticide Applicator Certification & Training Rule Change

NPDES Permit requirements for pesticide applications "to" surface waters of the US:

Senate Bill S.1500: Sensible Environmental Protection Act of 2015

• 08/05/2015 Committee on Environment and Public Works ordered S.1500 to be reported without amendment favorably. Senate Bill S.1500 may be tracked at the following web site: https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/s1500

The related House Bill H.R. 897: Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2015

• The committees assigned to this bill sent it to the House or Senate as a whole for consideration on March 19, 2015. House Bill H.R. 897 may be tracked at the following website: https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/hr897

EPA Pesticide Applicator Certification & Training Rule Change

For the first time since 1974, the EPA is changing the rules for certified pesticide applicators. Although this rule change is aimed at users of restricted-use pesticides (RUP), this may very well impact you. There is some speculation that Virginia would not institute a separate set of requirements for RUP users and require an across the board change to accommodate new EPA regulations.

• The EPA is soliciting public comments until November 23, 2015. Comments may be submitted at http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0183-0001

Gratitude is expressed to Pat Hipkins, VA Tech Pesticide Program; Tom Tracey, Virginia Turfgrass Council; and Karen Carter, Henrico Cooperative Extension for advising us of these proposed changes.

Please see the commercial applicator summary sheet, produced by the VA Tech Pesticide Program, on the next page.

Additional links to the Federal Register Notice, EPA Interpretation Chart, and Private Applicator Factsheet may be viewed on the VT Pesticide Programs home page under "Important: C&T Rule" (upper right of page). http://vtpp.ext.vt.edu/

Respectfully submitted, Randy B Buchanan VMCA, Legislative Chair

EPA Proposal to Revise the Certification of Pesticide Applicators Rule Notes for VA-Certified Commercial Applicators

On August 5, 2015, EPA issued a proposal to revise the Certification of Pesticide Applicators rule. The proposed revisions have been published in the Federal Register, and are available online at www.regulations.gov, under docket ID # EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0183. EPA is accepting comments on the proposal until November 23, 2015.

Most of the proposed federal-level changes do NOT affect VA-certified Commercial Applicators. However, here is a list of those that will, if the rule goes into effect "as is":

- All certified applicators must recertify every 3 years...but...most VA-certified applicators will need to spend more time at recertification programs due to proposed contact time/credit requirements:
 - 50 minutes of active training time = one continuing education unit (CEU).
 - To recertify, commercial applicators must earn 6 CEUs covering core content and 6 CEUs per category of certification (or retake and pass written exams for core and each category) on a 3-year cycle.
 - If a person is certified in only one Commercial Applicator category, they will need 12 X 50 minutes = 10 hours of continuing education in 3 years (6 Core CEUs + 6 category-specific CEUs). This works out to just under 7 hours in two years (4 Core CEUs + 4 category-specific CEUs).
 - If a person is certified in two CA categories, they will need 18 X 50 minutes = 15 hours of continuing education in 3 years (6 Core CEUs + 12 category-specific CEUs). This works out to 12 X 50 = 10 hours in two years (4 Core CEUs + 8 category-specific CEUs).
 - Currently, most VA-approved CAR courses involve ~ 6 hours of actual instruction. Many are approved for more than one category.
 - Applicators must earn at least half of the required CEUs in the 18 months preceding certificate expiration date.
- Recertification program participants must present identification (government issued w/picture).
- Depending on how the rule is interpreted, VA-certified Commercial Applicators may need to make and keep records of training for prospective Registered Technicians.

(40 hours minimum on-the-job training: 20 hours Core manual content instruction or self-study and 20 hours handling w/ direct, onsite supervision)

As a result, VDACS Office of Pesticide Services may need to modify course approval and training tracking procedures. Agencies and organizations that offer continuing education opportunities will see an increased demand for programs.

For additional information on the rulemaking:

http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/epa-proposes-stronger-standards-peopleapplying-riskiest-pesticides

For technical questions, contact Michelle Arling: arling.michelle@epa.gov / (703) 308-5891

As per EPA: constructive, usable comments address both what is problematic and why. Agency staff noted that one thoughtful comment with an explanation from an individual carries more weight than hundreds of "form" letters.

Suffolk joins the world of scientific publication

City of Suffolk Biologists Jay Kiser and Karen Akaratovic along with Superintendent Charles Abadam, published a research paper on September 1, 2015 in collaboration with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. The research that appears in the paper was conducted in 2013. The paper was published in the Public Library of Science journal, *PLoS ONE*, and is open access. Please see the abstract printed below for an overview of the paper's contents. To view the paper in its entirety or to download a copy, please click heres/lease-see the abstract printed below for an overview of the paper's contents. To view

Vector-host interactions of Culiseta melanura in a focus of eastern equine encephalitis virus activity in southeastern Virginia Abstract

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV) causes a highly pathogenic mosquito-borne zoonosis that is responsible for sporadic outbreaks of severe illness in humans and equines in the eastern USA. Culiseta (Cs.) melanura is the primary vector of EEEV in most geographic regions but its feeding patterns on specific avian and mammalian hosts are largely unknown in the mid-Atlantic region. The objectives of our study were to: 1) identify avian hosts of Cs.melanura and evaluate their potential role in enzootic amplification of EEEV, 2) assess spatial and temporal patterns of virus activity during a season of intense virus transmission, and 3) investigate the potential role of Cs. melanura in epidemic/epizootic transmission of EEEV to humans and equines. Accordingly, we collected mosquitoes at 55 sites in Suffolk, Virginia in 2013, and identified the source of blood meals in engorged mosquitoes by nucleotide sequencing PCR products of the mitochondrial cytochrome b gene. We also examined field-collected mosquitoes for evidence of infection with EEEV using Vector Test, cell culture, and PCR. Analysis of 188 engorged Cs. melanura sampled from April through October 2013 indicated that 95.2%, 4.3%, and 0.5% obtained blood meals from avian, mammalian, and reptilian hosts, respectively. American Robin was the most frequently identified host for Cs.melanura (42.6% of blood meals) followed by Northern Cardinal (16.0%), European Starling (11.2%), Carolina Wren (4.3%), and Common Grackle (4.3%). EEEV was detected in 106 mosquito pools of Cs. melanura, and the number of virus positive pools peaked in late July with 22 positive pools and a Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) infection rate of 4.46 per 1,000 mosquitoes. Our findings highlight the importance of Cs. melanura as a regional EEEV vector based on frequent feeding on viruscompetent bird species. A small proportion of blood meals acquired from mammalian hosts suggests the possibility that this species may occasionally contribute to epidemic/epizootic transmission of EEEV.

Merchandise Committee Announcement

The merchandise committee has been looking into some new items and designs for the upcoming 2016 VMCA Annual Meeting. We would like your input to get a better feel for what the majority of the group is interested in. You can pick one, all, or none of the choices listed at right. However, if you do not like any of the options listed, please let us know what you **would** like to see. Please send your responses to the Committee Chair, Karen Akaratovic at kakaratovic@suffolkva.us. Thanks for your time!

We would like your feedback by November 16!

Items:

- A. Reusable tote
- B. Can cooler ("koozie")
- C. Pint glass
- D. Decals/stickers
- E. Tee-shirts
- F. Sweatshirts/Jackets
- G. Knit caps ("beanies")

TMVCC Update

The Tidewater Mosquito and Vector Control Council has had an excellent year so far. All of our sponsors have presented valuable information on their products and services and we truly appreciate everything they do for us. We have also had some wonderful educational speakers this year who have discussed topics ranging from BMPs to termites. However, we are still in need of an educational speaker for the December meeting. If you or your colleagues are interested in sharing your mosquito-related experiences and expertise, please contact a board member.

August 12th- Doug Hill with Morrell Instrument Company sponsored the August meeting at Sandy Bottom Nature Park in Hampton, where he gave a presentation on his company's products and had a microscope display set up. Most cities are experiencing a decrease in overall mosquito populations. Those in attendance were City of Hampton, Langley Air Force Base, City of Newport News, City of Suffolk, and York County.

September 9th- Jeffrey O'Neill with Central Life Sciences sponsored the September meeting in Newport News. Jeff gave a very informative presentation on the products his company manufactures, including some new products that are certified organic. Most cities report low mosquito populations with the exceptions of Norfolk still catching some high numbers of Culex pipiens/restuans and York County experiencing a bloom of Ochlerotatus taeniorhynchus.

As the end of the year approaches and the president retires from the board, we are always looking for someone new to assume the role of TMVCC Secretary. Michael Bowry of Suffolk Mosquito Control has volunteered to fill the position. If anyone else is interested in running for the position please let a board member know. We will be making this announcement again at the November meeting.

Submitted by Karen Akaratovic

"What's That?" Answer

THAT is a portion of the plaque given for the VMCA Outstanding Service Award. It is our What's That? this issue, because...

it is time to consider nominations for the VMCA annual awards. Please send your nomination with a complete write-up of why you think an individual should receive the award to Kirby Foley at kfoley@cityofchesapeake.net. The awards are: Send in your nominations!

- R.E. Dorer Award
- **Honorary Membership**
- Outstanding Service Award (resulting from field work)
- Distinguished Service Award (for organizational work)
- **Certificate of Appreciation** (can be for an outsider that provided some service)

2016 VMCA Recertification Course

Dear Members.

The Virginia Mosquito Control Association is sponsoring a re-certification course for Categories 6, 8, 7A-General Pest (New this year) & Registered Technician (60) on Thursday, January 14, 2016. It will be held at the Hampton Library, 4207 Victoria Blvd, Hampton, Virginia. Registration is at 9:00 AM.

Please be on time!

The fee for this course is \$10.00 for VMCA Members, \$15.00 for non-members (applicators not for hire), and \$30.00 for non-members (applicators for hire). There will be a \$2.00 late fee after January 7, 2016.

Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact either Lisa Wagenbrenner at (757) 673-3932 or Penelope Smelser at (757) 683-8662.

NAME:		PHONE:			
CERTIFICATE NUMBER	::				
AFFILIATION/ORGANIZATION:					
ADDRESS:					
CITY·	STATE	ZIP·			

Please make check payable to VMCA

Mail or fax form to: Penelope Smelser, Secretary/Treasurer, 2800 Tarrant Street, Norfolk, VA 23509. Phone: 757-683-8662, Cell: 757-478-0504, Fax: 757-683-2500,

Email: penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov

Directions

Location: Hampton Library

Address: 4207 Victoria Blvd, City of Hampton, Virginia

Phone: (757) 727-1154 (Library)

Parking: Please park at the stadium parking lot across the street.

Coming from I-64 West

Take exit 267, make a left on Settlers Landing Road, proceed to bridge and through town, make a left on Kecoughtan Road, go two blocks, Hampton Library on your left. (Library is on the corner of Kecoughtan and Victoria Road).

Coming from I-64 East

Take exit 265A to Lasalle Avenue, make a right, go to Settlers Landing Road, make a left, go to Kecoughtan Road, make a right and go two blocks, Hampton Library will be on the left.

Coming from I-664

Take Exit 1B for I-64 East, then take exit 265A to Lasalle Avenue, make a right, go to Settlers Landing Road, make a left, go to Kecoughtan Road, make a right, go two blocks, Hampton Library is on the left.

VMCA Annual Meeting: Call for Presentations

Dear VMCA Members.

It's that time of year again! The 2016 VMCA Annual Meeting is <u>January 26-28</u>, <u>2016</u>, and we are looking for members to share their mosquito/vector control or related research experiences. Please note the following change to the meeting schedule from past years: <u>The 2016 meeting will run from Tuesday through Thursday</u>. This year's conference will be held at the Portsmouth Renaissance Hotel in Portsmouth, Virginia. This is your opportunity to share your knowledge with other mosquito folks from across the state and we encourage a wide range of topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- Adult Control
- Larval Control
- Larval habitat management
- Operational
- · Field work
- Management
- GIS/GPS
- Equipment

- Disease/Vector Studies
- Outreach/Education
- Public Relations
- Legislative
- Biology
- Behavior
- Other pests/vectors

If you have a topic you would like to present at the meeting, please complete the attached VMCA Presentation Submission Form and return to Joshua Smith (<u>Joshua.Smith@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>) and Leah Aguilar (<u>Leah.Aguilar@yorkcounty.gov</u>).

<u>DEADLINE: November 20th, 2015.</u> Call Joshua Smith with any questions: 703-246-8477.

If, at this time, you are not sure of a presentation title but know you would like to present something, please let Josh and Leah know by filling out the VMCA Presentation Submission Form (on the next page) so they can be sure to include you. We are looking forward to another outstanding meeting next January in Portsmouth. We hope to see you there!

Regards,

VMCA Executive Board

VMCA Annual Meeting: Presentation Submission Form

Please return completed form to Joshua Smith (<u>Joshua.Smith@fairfaxcounty.gov</u>) and Leah Aguilar (<u>Leah.Aguilar@yorkcounty.gov</u>).

DEADLINE: November 20th, 2015.

Presenter Information
Name:
Organization/Affiliation:
Address:
Phone:
E-mail:
Presentation Information
Title:
Amount of time requested for presentation (please be as accurate as possible and include a few extra minutes for questions):
15 minutes 20 minutes 25 minutes 30 minutes Other:
PowerPoint will be provided. Other Audio/Visual Equipment Needed:
New VMCA Website

If you haven't been there lately, head on over to check out the new and improved website!



VMCA Membership Application and Renewal Form

Virginia Mosquito Control Association New Membership & Member Renewal Application

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: () RENEWAL () NEW Mark an "X" in the appropriate box

NAME:	Regular \$ 15.00
PHONE:	Associate \$ 10.00
ADDRESS:	Student: *Enclose proof of student status \$ 10.00
E-MAIL:	
ORGANIZATION:	
	TOTAL SUBMITTTED
Please "X" here if you cannot rece	ive the newsletter by email
Questions or comments can be direct 757-683-8662 or mail to: Penelope.s	ted to Penelope Smelser, Secretary-Treasurer, melser@norfolk.gov
Send payment (made payable to <u>VM</u> form, save and submit by email.	ICA) and mail/fax this form to Secretary/Treasurer –or- fill out
Penelope Smelser	

VMCA Secretary-Treasurer 2800 Tarrant Street Norfolk, VA 23509 757-683-8662 office phone 757-683-2500 office fax

Regular Member - VMCA Newsletter, hold office, serve on committees, propose motions, vote, and participate in business meetings.

Associate Member - VMCA Newsletter, participate in business meetings.

Student Member - VMCA Newsletter, serve on committees and participate in business meetings.

(Student must be enrolled at least 1/2 time in an accredited college or university and produce valid College/University ID Card.)

2015 Sustaining Members

The VMCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the following sustaining members for 2015. Without their generous contributions, much of what we do would not be possible. Please do not hesitate to contact them. They are here to help you!

Ted Bean

(814) 671-6516

tbean@myadapco.com



Matt Crabbe

(804) 334-7370

crabav@gmail.com





Jeff Hottenstein

(703) 498-9362

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ssullivan@central.com

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TK Rosolina

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Mrosolina@dynamicaviation.com





Joe Andrews

(888) 603-1008

joea@allprovector.com

Doug Hill

(800) 570-4277

Dhill@morrellonline.com

John Singletary



Gordon Morrison

(919) 452-7145

Gordon.morrison@bayer.com









john.singletary@univarusa.com

PP&S



Virginia Mosquito Control Organizations & Other Resources

As a result of revisions to the VMCA By-Laws, the organizational member category was eliminated. In order to facilitate communication among mosquito control districts, those that have traditionally been organizational members are listed below along with their websites. If there are other sites that should be listed, please submit them to the editor.

Virginia Mosquito Control Organizations

Alexandria Health Department

Boykins, Town of

Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission

Emporia, City of

Fairfax County Health Department

Fort Eustis

Gloucester County

Hampton, City of

Henrico County

Newport News, City of

Norfolk, City of

Portsmouth, City of

Prince William County Mosquito & Forest Pest Management

Richmond, City of

Suffolk, City of

US Air Force / Langley Air Force Base

Virginia Beach Mosquito Control

York County

Health Information

<u>Virginia Department of Health</u> Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Other Mosquito Control Organizations

Mosqu

Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association
American Mosquito Control Association

AMCA/Fairfax County Education and Outreach Materials

Submissions wanted!

Have something you'd like to include in the next issue of *The Skeeter*? We are looking for organizational updates, operational news, education and other outreach activities, pictures, stories, or other vaguely vector-related items to include in an upcoming newsletter.

Please send all items to Justin Anderson at janderson152@radford.edu.

The deadline for inclusion in the next issue is: **December 15, 2015.**

The Skeeter

Newsletter of The Virginia Mosquito Control Association

Justin Anderson Department of Biology, Box 6931 Radford University Radford, VA 24142 Phone (540) 831-5639



Take the time to volunteer on a committee. An active membership makes for a stronger organization.

Contact anyone on the Board to participate.

2015 Virginia Mosquito Control Association Officers

President: Jay Kiser	(757) 514-7608	<u>jkiser@suffolkva.us</u>
President Elect: Josh Smith	(703) 246-8477	joshua.smith@fairfaxcounty.gov
Vice President: Jeff Hottenstein	(703) 498-9362	jhottenstein@clarke.com
1st Vice President: George Wojcik	(757) 393-8666	wojcikg@portsmouthva.gov
Secretary / Treasurer: Penelope Smelser	(757) 683-8662	Penelope.smelser@norfolk.gov
Past President: Jennifer Pierce	(757) 426-5420	<u>IPierce@vbgov.com</u>
*TMVCC Representative: Karen Akaratovic	(757) 514-7608	kakaratovic@suffolkva.us
*MAMCA Representative: Ann Herring	(757) 514-7608	mherring@suffolkva.us
*Sustaining Member/Industry Rep: Jeff O'Neill	(302) 312-3950	joneill@central.com
*Non-voting member of the Board		

The Skeeter is the official publication of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association.

The VMCA membership is encouraged to submit articles, reviews, and any other interesting facts or tidbits for publication. Submissions can be sent to Justin Anderson at skeeter@radford.edu.

Committee Chair / Production: Justin Anderson, Radford University

Distribution: Penelope Smelser, Norfolk

Editorial review: All the members of the board.

Production advisor: George Wojcik, City of Portsmouth