



To all FMCA members:

We hope everyone returned safely from the recent FMCA meeting in Jacksonville and found the meetings both informative and productive. As promised, we wanted to provide you some of the documents referenced during the FL Legislative presentation. The following documents are attached for your review:

- 2011 FMCA Legislative Summary
- DACS proposed changes to Chapter 388 for 2012 Legislative Session
- DACS and DEP ranking of proposed cuts for 2012 Legislative Session

After a 40% reduction in state aid for the current year, DACS and DEP are both proposing to **completely** eliminate funding for mosquito control for FY 2012-13. Their proposal next year is to eliminate all funding for the mosquito control programs and for mosquito control research. This will have a major impact on our programs to perform our mandated duties and essentially eliminate the important mosquito research in Florida. Although we recently heard at the FMCA meeting from DACS that the State Aid Funds to mosquito control programs were ranked low in their schedule to cut, we don't consider #6 of 32 scheduled cuts a low ranking. This is a disturbing message to hear and we cannot let this further attempt to gut our program occur.

FMCA's Tallahassee Legislative Days has been scheduled for Tuesday evening (**Jan. 24**) for dinner and Wednesday (**Jan. 25**) for the day at the capitol. The 2012 Florida legislative session is scheduled to begin on January 10th, two months sooner than normal, because lawmakers need to work through state and federal redistricting. Please place this important date on your calendar. Your participation is critical this year to help deliver our message to the legislators. Budgets are tight and travel money even tighter, but if you can find the time and funds to attend this all important event, it would go a long way toward keeping mosquito control issues and needs in the forefront of our legislator's minds. If you can only make it for the day, come Wednesday, January 25th to visit your legislators. It cannot be stressed enough how important your participation is in this event.

Tallahassee Days 2012 - January 24 - 25, 2012 (Tues/Wed)

- **Cabot Lodge – Thomasville Road**
- **Room rate - \$109 (Cut-off date for room block 1/10/2012)**
- **Phone: (850) 386-7500**
- **1653 Raymond Diehl Road • Tallahassee, FL 32308**
- **<http://www.cabotlodgethomasvilleroad.com/locations.php>**

We appreciate your support and interest in the Florida legislative process and hope you can find the time to join in our efforts. Additional information for dinner/lunch, talking points, etc. will be available next month. There are a number of important issues coming up, including the complete loss of State Aid funding, elimination of special districts and other issues that could have an enormous impact on FMCA, so we implore you to show your support to help to maintain what we currently have. Don't sit back and assume others will carry the ball for you!

We sincerely hope to see you in Tallahassee on Jan. 24/25.

FMCA Legislative Co-Chairs:

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