AMCA®

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2025 | Vol 54 | Issue 3

Upcoming Events

AMCA 2025 Washington Conference
Washington, DC
May 12-14, 2025

AMCA 2026 Annual Meeting
Portland, OR
March 23-27, 2026

View our event calendar.

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Next Issue Deadline: August 15, 2025

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On The Cover

Our mission is to enhance health and quality of life through the suppression of vector-transmitted diseases and the reduction of mosquitoes and other public health pests by providing leadership, information, collaboration, tools, and education.

Table of Contents

AMCA RESEARCH FUND

Mosquito control is science-based. Mosquito control professionals use observation of mosquito populations, evaluation of novel control technology and predictive modeling to determine the best way to manage mosquito populations and prevent pathogen transmission. Mosquito control has benefited from a long history of research within mosquito abatement agencies, at public and private universities, and at other qualified research institutions examining how to improve mosquito control to provide a better quality of life for the public.

2024 RESEARCH FUND AWARDEES

Bradley Willenberg, PhD., *"New Attractive Toxic Sugar Baits with Propylene Glycol as a Sugar Substitute and Toxicant in Capillary Alginate Gel Biomaterials"* **University of Central Florida**

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMCARF ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

The AMCA Research Fund is currently accepting contributions for future research on mosquito control and related topics. Contributions can be made online through the Research Fund webpage or by check payable to:

AMCA Research Fund
ATTN: Megan MacNee
1 Capitol Mall, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814

AMCA WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS

- ADAPCO
- *Anonymous Contribution*
- Canyon County MAD
- Contra Costa Mosquito and VCD
- Michigan MCA
- Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and VCD
- Schools First Federal Credit Union
- Valent BioSciences

President's Message

Herff Jones

Thank you all for your dedication and participation in this year's AMCA Washington Conference. With over 90 attendees, the event featured a robust program that included a dynamic message training session led by our RISE partners, Megan Provost and Kylie Gregory. Armed with refined communication strategies, members spent Wednesday visiting their assigned congressional and senatorial offices across Washington, D.C. In total, participants conducted more than 100 Capitol Hill visits, covering over half of the key Appropriations Committee offices identified by AMCA's federal partner, the Normandy Group.

As our federal priorities continue to evolve, this year's conference provided a critical opportunity for AMCA professionals to introduce themselves to the new administration as trusted experts in insect-borne disease prevention. The event also underscored the vital role our members play in protecting public health on behalf of the constituents served by their elected officials.

Advocating for AMCA's priorities doesn't end in Washington. Moving forward, your regional directors and board officers will encourage continued engagement with local congressional district offices. These visits not only reinforce the messaging delivered in D.C. but also provide valuable opportunities to work with local staff who have a deep understanding of regional issues. AMCA's advocacy is active year-round, and our Technical Advisory (TA) and Legislative & Regulatory (L&R) Committees—along with our D.C. advisors—continue to monitor developments at the federal, state, and local levels. Members can strengthen these efforts through their regular or sustaining memberships—and, most importantly, by lending their voices.

The AMCA Board of Directors remains committed to continuous improvement and has taken direct steps to evaluate the current state of the association and define clear strategic goals. These efforts have already resulted in enhanced member services, increased benefits, improved financial sustainability, and updates to key committee operations. Thanks to the leadership of the board and the engagement of our members, significant progress has been made toward achieving these goals.

However, some of these objectives are long-term in nature and will require sustained focus. To that end, the board will be updating and refining strategic priorities to maintain momentum. As part of this process, and during the current presidential cycle, the board will also review its governance structures, policies, and practices to ensure alignment with AMCA's mission and the needs of its members.

The first step in this effort was a board-wide self-assessment to identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities for growth. Most importantly, the board has expressed strong support and commitment to this process. Our goal is to ensure the association's continued success and longevity through thoughtful, member-focused leadership. ■

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Technical Advisor Report

Daniel Markowski, PhD

AMCA held its 27th Annual Washington Conference last month in Alexandria, VA. This was a great year to be in Washington as we once again brought together vector control professionals, government representatives, and industry leaders for three days of collaboration, strategy, and legislative advocacy. The event focused on strengthening our legislative engagement and advancing mosquito control policy at the federal level.

The educational sessions featured a slate of impressive speakers from multiple federal agencies and our partner associations. John Goldberg, of the Normandy Group, provided an excellent overview of AMCA's policy items, while outlining key federal priorities, including ESA reform, pesticide registration, NPDES permitting, drone legislation, and funding strategies. Lauren Bailey of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) shared insights on how the Endangered Species Act affects mosquito control operations. During her presentation she outlined our AMCA and the USFWS have been coordinating on a guidance document to protect monarchs and listed species. We were also fortunate to have representatives from EPA, and the Entomological Society of America to emphasize cross-agency initiatives and the role of the regional Centers of Excellence in local vector surveillance and control. Joel Buettner even discussed the evolving regulations that are impacting the use of drones in mosquito control.

A standout feature of this year's program was focused advocacy training! Message training led by RISE helped attendees master effective messaging through interactive mock interviews and scenario-based exercises. The RISE program also provided grassroots training to equip members with proven techniques for preparing meetings with legislative and regulatory stakeholders.

On May 14, attendees participated in Capitol Hill office visits to discuss mosquito control priorities directly with Senators, Representatives, and legislative aides. On our Key Appropriations Committee list, we completed 48 office visits, out of a total of 79 House and Senator offices. In total, our membership conducted 85 formal congressional office visits! These meetings gave AMCA members the opportunity to advocate for essential public health funding, science-based pesticide regulations, and policy reforms that support the effectiveness of their programs.

So now that the event is over, what are the next steps? Attendees are encouraged follow up with their offices and send thank-you notes to offices they visited, summarizing discussion points and offering additional resources. Let myself or the L&R Chairs know if further engagement or follow-up visits are needed with specific Members of Congress. AMCA and the Normandy Group will continue tracking developments related to pesticide legislation, drone regulation, and federal funding. And finally, I hope everyone in attendance will apply the messaging and grassroots skills in their local districts whether it's for public outreach, agency coordination, or state-level advocacy.

Special thanks to all sponsors, presenters, and participants for making this year's Washington Conference a success. Together, we are shaping smarter policy for mosquito control and protecting public health nationwide. ■

International Director Report

Grifith Lizarraga • International Director

VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE OUTLOOK – SUMMER 2025

As we move into the second half of 2025, mosquito-borne disease dynamics across the Americas continue to evolve—offering both encouraging signs and areas of concern for public health professionals and vector control teams.

DENGUE: MARKED DECREASE ACROSS THE REGION

According to the PAHO Dengue Epidemiological Update for Week 21 (June 2025), the Americas reported over 3 million suspected dengue cases year-to-date that's a 70% decrease compared to the same period in 2024 and 12% below the five-year average. Despite this drop, over 1,200 deaths have been recorded, underscoring the continued burden and risk of severe disease.

- Southern Cone: The hardest-hit subregion this year, reporting over 91,000 cases in a single week (EW21). Though this represents a 71% decrease from 2024, Paraguay showed a concerning 18% increase compared to the previous month.
- Central America and Mexico: Mexico and Honduras are currently trending upwards, with week-over-week increases of 22% and 30%, respectively.
- Andean Region: Continues to decline with a 68% decrease from last year.
- Caribbean: Saw a 63% drop in dengue reports compared to 2024.

Brazil alone has reported over 2.7 million cases, accounting for the majority of the regional total. Four dengue serotypes are co-circulating in Brazil, Mexico, Panama, El Salvador, and Costa Rica—raising concerns about increased risk of severe outcomes.

While dengue continues to dominate the spotlight, several other arboviral and parasitic diseases remain of critical importance in the Americas—particularly as they share ecological niches and at-risk populations with dengue.

- **Chikungunya:** Though circulation has diminished in many areas compared to previous years, periodic localized outbreaks remain a concern, particularly in densely populated urban zones with favorable vector conditions.
- **Yellow Fever:** Endemic in parts of South America, particularly Brazil, where sylvatic cycles involving non-human primates and forest mosquitoes pose persistent threats. Surveillance and vaccination remain key pillars in preventing urban spillover.
- **Malaria:** While regional incidence has largely plateaued, challenges persist in remote border areas, especially in the Amazon basin. Cross-border coordination and vector control logistics remain barriers to elimination.

This broader disease landscape places the emergence of Oropouche virus into sharper context—as an under-recognized arbovirus now generating a growing number of human cases. Its expansion serves as a reminder that the arboviral threat in the Americas extends well beyond dengue, and reinforces the importance of surveillance systems capable of detecting and responding to lesser-known but potentially serious pathogens.

OROPOUCHE VIRUS: EXPANDED REGIONAL SURVEILLANCE AND RISING CASE BURDEN

Oropouche virus (OROV) keeps gaining renewed attention due to expanding case detection and confirmed transmission in several countries of the Americas. According to PAHO data from 2025, over 12,000 laboratory-confirmed Oropouche cases have been reported, with significant clusters in Brazil, Peru, Cuba, and Panama.

Country	Confirmed Cases	Incidence (per 100,000)	Neurological Manifestations	Deaths
Brazil	11,565	5.40	4	0
Peru	233	0.70	0	0
Panama	287	6.44	3	1
Cuba	2,452	21.67	1	4
Colombia	21	0.05	0	0
Other (Guyana, Venezuela, Uruguay, U.S.)	<100 each	Low incidence	0	0

Among the reported figures, a few observations stand out. Cuba currently leads in incidence with 21.67 cases per 100,000 population and has reported four deaths, highlighting a localized but intense outbreak pattern. Brazil, while showing a lower incidence rate, remains the country with the highest absolute number of confirmed Oropouche cases, a figure driven in part by the country's large population and improved surveillance capacity through national institutions such as Fiocruz. Meanwhile, Panama shows the third-highest incidence rate and has reported the only Oropouche-related death outside of Cuba—further emphasizing the

geographic spread and public health significance of the virus beyond traditionally endemic areas.

Brazil's growing attention to Oropouche has included a national-scale research response led by the **Oswaldo Cruz Institute (IOC/Fiocruz)**. In 2024, over 11,600 confirmed cases were recorded across 22 states, prompting targeted investigations into diagnostics, transmission, and vector biology. The IOC, designated as a regional reference lab for arboviruses, has played a key role through its Arbovirus and Hemorrhagic Virus Laboratory and Ceratopogonidae Collection, which houses over 10,000 biting midge specimens.

In partnership with PAHO, Fiocruz also developed a technical manual for the identification of Culicoides (biting midges)—the primary vectors of OROV. This operational guide, now available in English and Spanish, is intended to support entomologists across the Americas in characterizing the most medically relevant species of this group. Authored by IOC researchers Maria Clara Alves Santarém and Maria Luiza Felippe-Bauer, the manual includes taxonomic keys, illustrated species plates, and ecological details relevant for vector surveillance and outbreak investigations.

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL EVENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

As we look ahead to the rest of 2025, I want to personally highlight some great opportunities for our community to come together, share knowledge, and keep building momentum across the region.

Let's start with something big; **LA SOVE and RELCOV 2025**. This October, La Plata, Argentina will host a joint congress uniting two of the region's most important scientific and operational networks: the Sociedad Latinoamericana de Ecología de Vectores (LA SOVE) and the Red Latinoamericana de Control de Vectores (RELCOV). While LA SOVE focuses on the ecological dimensions of vector-borne disease transmission, RELCOV is a regional network dedicated to operational capacity building and coordinated vector control strategies across Latin America. This collaboration exemplifies the growing integration between research and field implementation. This year's congress is led by Dr. Christina B. McCarthy (President of LA SOVE) and Dr. Ima Aparecida Braga (President of RELCOV), two leading figures in vector ecology and control.

Next, we have the 10th edition of **Peruplagas**, set for early September in Lima, Peru. This is always a strong event with solid technical discussions around urban pest and vector control.

And the Puerto Rico Vector Management Association (PRVCU) will mark its 5th anniversary with the 2025 Annual Vector Control Convention, held October 1st and 3rd. This free event brings together over 300 participants from across Puerto Rico and the mainland U.S. to exchange expertise and strengthen mosquito control capacity on the island.

> **"While dengue continues to dominate the spotlight, several other arboviral and parasitic diseases remain of critical importance in the Americas—particularly as they share ecological niches and at-risk populations with dengue."**

Back in May, we had the chance to see some of you at the 22nd Jornadas Técnicas Integrales in **Buenos Aires**. Organized by ChemoTecnica, this gathering focused on new products, application technology, and resistance management.

PanDengue 2025, held in April in Medellin, **Colombia**, brought together several participants from 21 countries and territories across the Americas, Asia and Europe. This biannual scientific meeting, organized by the Pan-American Dengue Research Network, continues to serve as a critical forum for collaboration between academia, public health institutions, and industry. The 2025 program included sessions on surveillance innovation, vector control technologies, viral genomics, and the growing threat of emerging arboviruses such as Mayaro and Oropouche.

Thanks for staying informed and connected. Until next time—wishing you a safe, productive season and continued success in all your efforts across the region! ■

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5. LA SOVE & RELCOV 2025 Official Site: https://lasoverelcov2025.lasove.org/
6. Peruplagas Official Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/peruplagas/
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8. Pan Dengue Network (Pandengue): https://www.pandengue.net

North Atlantic Director Report

Priscilla Matton, MS • North Atlantic Director

The North Atlantic region had above average Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) activity in 2024. This was the first outbreak since 2019 for most of the region. The fall of 2024 had below average rainfall and much of the region experienced a drought, making overwinter conditions for the enzootic vector, Cs. melanura, less ideal. The drought continued into the beginning of 2025, and Cs. melanura populations are currently below average. Previous years' activity is an important indicator to predict future outbreaks, but rainfall amounts might predict increased EEE detections with greater probability. States like Vermont have their EEE Response Team in place (reps from several state agencies, contractors, USF&W, CDC) and are ready if they need to treat. It will be a very expensive endeavor for Vermont but given that 2 human cases were reported last year there's not much appetite for "wait and see." Many other states are reviewing their contracts.

Vermont has two MCDs that will be using drone contractors for larviciding for the first time ever this year! They are working with AMCA and the procedures established for drone use in mosquito control.

With the establishment of the CDC's New England Vector Borne Center for Excellence at the University of Massachusetts, mosquito control districts in MA will continue to trap and submit mosquito samples for Jamestown Canyon virus testing. West Nile virus surveillance will continue as usual in the region.

The Northeastern Mosquito Control Association (NMCA) hosted a Mosquito Mayhem training class for members on general biology, taxonomy and identification for incoming and seasoned technicians. This class is a great success each year and the participants come away with increased knowledge and experience. The NMCA annual meeting is December 8-10, 2025, at Margaritaville on Cape Cod in Massachusetts. It's never too early to plan, so please save the dates.

UPDATES FROM THE NEVBD TRAINING & EVALUATION CENTER PROVIDED BY EMILY MADER

The Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases (NEVBD) Training & Evaluation Center is excited to share several of 2025 programs that launched this past spring!

Training Programs

The 2025 Vector Biology Boot Camp program was hosted May 28-30, 2025, at the Cornell University campus in Ithaca, NY. We were joined by 24 professionals from across 6 states in the northeast / mid-Atlantic regions of the US and Puerto Rico. Program instructors included experts from Cornell University, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Hunterdon County Mosquito & Vector Control in New Jersey. This hands-on training program provides training and resources in the fundamentals of vector surveillance, control, and public health communication. We look forward to offering the 2026 program with our partners at the MaineHealth Institute for Research in Scarborough, Maine.

NEVBD-TEC has launched our **second year of the undergraduate summer internship program!** This year, we have engaged 13 students from regional universities and community colleges to work alongside health department and vector control staff in nine different public agencies in the northeast / mid-Atlantic. These summer students will be completing a summer blog to share their experiences. We are also supporting 6 interns from undergraduate and MPH programs in Connecticut to join the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station this summer to contribute to their ongoing projects in mosquito surveillance and tick control.

Pesticide Resistance Monitoring Program

The NEVBD-TEC Pesticide Resistance Monitoring Program will begin accepting mosquito submissions from our field partners on June 23, 2025. Partners across the northeast can submit *Aedes albopictus, Culex pipiens/restuans*, and *Culiseta melanura* collections to our team based out of Cornell University for both larval and adult resistance assays. Results of this program are highlighted at the end of each year on our interactive StoryMap. Interested in receiving program updates? Sign up for our resistance mailing list!

We are also excited to share a new training resource in pesticide resistance monitoring! NEVBD-TEC created three videos to help mosquito control professionals learn how to perform in-house mosquito rearing and conduct pesticide resistance assays.

- **How to Rear Mosquitoes:** Guidelines for rearing Aedes aegypti, Aedes albopictus, Culex pipiens, and Culiseta melanura
- **How to Test Mosquito Larvae for Resistance:** Instructions for conducting larval cup resistance bioassays
- **How to Test Adults Mosquitoes for Resistance:** Instructions for conducting adult topical resistance bioassays.

Links to these training videos can be found on our website and on our YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/@northeastvector-bornedisease. Visit us at neregionalvectorcenter.com to learn more about NEVBD-TEC programming and access resources and publications on vector-borne disease prevention.

On a more personal note, Dr. Keira Lucas and I are honored to step into the role of Co-Chair of AMCA's Legislative and Regulatory Committee. The AMCA Legislative and Regulatory Committee continues its primary function – ensuring mosquito control remains a national public health priority. Together, we look forward to continuing the important work of advocating for policies and regulations that support the mosquito control profession and protect public health across the country. While we'll both be engaged in all aspects of the committee's work, we've agreed to divide responsibilities to enhance efficiency: I'll take the lead on regulatory issues, and Keira will focus on legislative matters. This structure will help streamline communication and accelerate progress on key initiatives. Please don't hesitate to reach out – we're here to support you! ■

South Pacific Director Report

Peter Bronkrude • South Pacific Director

CALIFORNIA UPDATE:

The 2025 season is off to a fast-paced start across California, with several early mosquito detections, exciting innovations, and collaborative successes to report.

In Northern California, congratulations go to the team at Shasta Mosquito and Vector Control District (SMVCD) for launching their first in-house arbovirus testing program this spring. Their new biosafety-level lab allows on-site diagnostics for WNV, SLEV, and WEEV, an exciting step forward for local surveillance capacity. Field teams are reporting early surges in *Culex pipien*s and *Cx. tarsalis* populations, indicating a busy season ahead.

Across the Coastal Region, agencies gathered at the Alameda MAD in March for the region's inaugural Invasive Aedes Forum, which received strong positive feedback and is now expected to become an annual event. The April MVCAC Coastal meeting highlighted regional themes including equipment upgrades, drone research, and seasonal staffing.

Notable district updates include:

- Santa Clara County reported their first detection of *Aedes aegypti* in the Santa Teresa neighborhood earlier than expected.
- Santa Cruz County is expanding outreach through UCSC interns and participating in the County's new One Health Collaborative.
- Solano County continues larvicide efficacy trials using drones and is preparing to host a CE event.
- Napa County is developing flora and fauna maps to support mosquito control near sensitive habitats.
- San Mateo County is advancing plans for a new facility, currently in the county permitting stage.
- Alameda County is piloting AI-assisted phone response technology and has upgraded their field fleet with new Argos.

In Southern California, districts are preparing for another year of increased travel and potential local dengue cases. Several agencies are actively developing Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) programs and enhancing local response protocols. The San Gabriel Valley MVCD continues to manage the impacts of the Eaton Fire, which has created thousands of potential mosquito breeding sources due to stagnant pools across the affected area.

Region-wide discussions continue regarding benefit assessments and long-term financial planning. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has reopened the Dead Bird Hotline and posted an updated Aedes aegypti response plan. Managers are also engaging with regulatory and legislative partners regarding monarch conservation efforts and potential pesticide exemptions.

NEVADA UPDATE:

The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) continues robust surveillance in Clark County, with nearly 10,000 mosquitoes tested in 2025 through 512 pooled samples. As of early June, no positive pools for WNV, SLEV, or WEEV have been detected, and there are no confirmed human cases. The district completed one WNV investigation earlier this year, which did not result in hospitalization or death.

Community engagement efforts remain strong, with SNHD encouraging residents to eliminate standing water and report mosquito activity. Their public-facing interactive mosquito map and regular arbovirus reports remain valuable tools for transparency and education. The district's work underscores the importance of consistent surveillance, even in years with low viral activity.

ARIZONA UPDATE:

Arizona is experiencing an uptick in travel-associated arboviral activity in 2025. Ten dengue cases have been confirmed so far this year, three times the five-year average, all linked to travel in Latin America. One WNV case has been reported, with symptom onset in 2024. No SLEV, chikungunya, or Zika cases have been detected to date.

The 2025 Arizona Vector Conference, hosted at the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center in April, drew 140 participants from 30 agencies across nine counties and seven tribal communities. Highlights included:

- USDA updates on vampire bat expansion.
- University of Arizona modeling for WNV forecasting,
- Maricopa County's innovative mosquito awareness displays,
- Pima County's expanded rabies education outreach, and
- ASU research on mosquito microclimates and behavior.

Arizona's Department of Health Services has added a part-time entomologist to further support surveillance efforts statewide.

HAWAIʻI UPDATE:

Hawaiʻi's Vector Control Branch is responding to eight confirmed dengue cases on Oahu and one travel-associated Zika case linked to travel in Fiji. These developments have prompted renewed public education efforts focused on mosquito bite prevention. As travel rebounds and climate trends shift, Hawaiʻi remains focused on rapid detection, proactive communication, and interagency collaboration to minimize arbovirus risks. ■

Summer 2025 Legislative and Regulatory Committee Update

Keira Lucas, PhD

Priscilla Matton, MS

Legislative and Regulatory Committee Co-Chairs

The AMCA Legislative and Regulatory Committee has been actively engaged in several significant initiatives. Below are a few key highlights this quarter.

EPA SUNSETTING THE PESTICIDE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

For more than 30 years, the EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP) has been a trusted partner to AMCA to reduce the risk associated with pesticide applications by promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Since joining the program in 1997, the AMCA has proudly embraced these values and even earned gold-level recognition for our commitment to environmental stewardship.

The EPA recently announced that it will sunset the PESP as of May 8, 2025 "as the administration refocuses the agency's priorities on statutory work". This means that all PESP-related materials, including logos, will need to be phased out by May 2026. As such, the AMCA's Legislative & Regulatory Committee will retire its PESP Subcommittee. We extend a big thanks to Chair Gabrielle Sakolsky Hoopes and all subcommittee members who have contributed to this important work over the years.

While it's the end of an era for the formal PESP partnership, its legacy lives on. The IPM principles it promoted, like reducing pesticide reliance, exploring alternative methods, and prioritizing public education, are foundational to mosquito control programs across the country. The AMCA remains fully committed to these science-driven, environmentally responsible practices and encourages all mosquito control professionals to continue leading with an integrated approach that protects both the health of our communities and our environment.

THE MAHA REPORT: MAKING OUR CHILDREN HEALTHY AGAIN

In May, the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Commission released its initial report, *The MAHA Report: Making Our Children Healthy Again*, highlighting concerns about rising chronic childhood diseases and potential environmental contributors. Pesticides are mentioned several times, with a focus on food and agricultural uses. The report raises concerns about cumulative

Photo by Janko Ferlič on Unsplash

chemical exposure in children, citing studies of questionable validity and making broad claims about industry-funded science and the peer review process, though it acknowledges the EPA's rigorous, science-based chemical review process.

While mosquito control isn't directly referenced, the visibility of adulticide applications may draw public attention, underscoring the need for transparency, scientific integrity, and proactive community engagement. As the Commission develops a national children's health strategy by August 2025, mosquito control professionals have a timely opportunity to highlight the vital role they play in their communities.

This is a key moment to educate our communities, legislators, and regulatory officials that mosquito control goes beyond nuisance relief, it's a critical service protecting against mosquito-borne diseases that disproportionately impact children and other vulnerable populations. By communicating our science, safety protocols, and economic contributions, we can reinforce our role in safeguarding public health and supporting thriving communities. Active participation in community engagement and the legislative process is essential to ensuring effective mosquito control services for our communities - remaining on the sidelines is no longer an option.

AMCA 27TH ANNUAL WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

One of the most effective ways to get involved in the legislative process is by participating in AMCA's Washington Conference. In May, AMCA hosted another successful event, bringing together members from across the country to advocate for key legislative and regulatory priorities. This year's agenda included reauthorization of the SMASH Act, reducing regulatory burdens related to NPDES permitting, and advancing federal recognition of special districts as units of local government.

With over 80 members in attendance, including 20 who received travel stipends, we came together to hold 85 formal meetings with Congressional offices: 69 in the House and 26 in the Senate, spanning 21 states. On top of that, we made 21 additional drop-in visits. These efforts strengthened AMCA's visibility on Capitol Hill and demonstrated widespread support for mosquito control programs.

The L&R Committee extends sincere thanks to Angela Beehler, Washington Conference Planning Subcommittee Chair, and Kristin Healy, Program Chair, for their leadership, and to Dan Markowski and Gary Goodman for their expert guidance and assistance with programing. We also thank Katherine Schmitz, Federal Affairs Assistant for The Normandy Group, for her work setting up appointments with key congressional members. And we thank Clarke and Central Life Sciences for their generous sponsorship of our travel stipend awardees.

As we keep working toward informed public health and pesticide use legislation and policy, we encourage all AMCA members to take an active role in the legislative process by connecting with their congressional representatives. While meeting with elected officials can seem intimidating at first, AMCA is here to support you every step of the way! As Kate Humlicek, Mosquito Research Technician from Harris County Mosquito and Vector Control and travel stipend recipient, shared:

> *"While entering congressional offices can certainly be intimidating at first, it gets easier with each meeting. Watching others with experience is certainly helpful to better understand which talking points to emphasize and how to deliver those points cohesively. The AMCA does a fantastic job at providing resources and tips to help you prepare for the meetings or lend you a hand any time you are stuck."*

With tools, training, and a dedicated AMCA community behind you, your voice can help shape the future of mosquito control and public health.

And don't forget, advocacy doesn't end in Washington! All AMCA members are encouraged to continue building relationships locally by inviting congressional representatives and district staff to visit their facilities in order to see firsthand the critical work you do. These visits help reinforce the real-world importance of mosquito control and support legislative efforts at every level. We hope to see even more AMCA members at next year's Washington Conference in May! Stay tuned for more details!

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY SUBCOMMITTEES

The L&R Committee remains committed to strengthening member engagement in legislative and regulatory issues affecting mosquito control. We're pleased to welcome Sherry Burroughs, Executive Director of the Indian River Mosquito Control District (FL), as the chair of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Subcommittee. This is an especially timely appointment as new ESA-related developments, such as the proposed listing of the monarch butterfly, could impact our operations.

We're currently looking for a volunteer to step into a key leadership role as chair of the Federal Lands Subcommittee. This group focuses on tackling mosquito control challenges on federally managed lands, like those overseen by the USFWS and NPS. If you've worked with federal land managers before, your insight and leadership could make a big difference for AMCA and its members.

We're also looking for someone to lead the Annual L&R Events Planning Subcommittee. This role plays a part in organizing the L&R symposiums at the annual meeting and helping to inspire AMCA member to participate in the legislative process. If you enjoy planning events and connecting with colleagues, this could be a great fit for you.

Whether you're interested in chairing a subcommittee or simply joining as a member, if you're passionate about policy and advocacy and want to make a meaningful impact, we encourage you to reach out to Keira (klucas@cmcd.org) or Priscilla (brismosqpc@comcast.net) to get involved. ■

Thank You to our 2025 Sustaining Members

Renew your membership today for the 2025 year!

DISTRICTS

- Adams County MCD
- Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District
- Amelia Island Mosquito Control
- Anastasia Mosquito Control District
- Animas Mosquito Control District
- Atlantic County Office of Mosquito Control
- Beach Mosquito Control District
- Beaufort County Mosquito Control
- Benton County Mosquito Control District
- Broward County Mosquito Control
- Butte County MVCD
- Canyon County Mosquito Abatement District
- Cape Cod Mosquito Control
- Citrus County Mosquito Control District
- Clackamas County Vector Control District
- Clark County Mosquito Control District
- Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District
- Collier Mosquito Control District
- Compton Creek Mosquito Abatement District
- Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District
- Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District
- Copper Valley Community Services District
- Davis County Mosquito Abatement District
- Delano Mosquito Abatement District
- Delta Mosquito & Vector Control District
- East Baton Rouge Parish Mosquito Abatement and Rodent Control
- East Flagler Mosquito Control District
- East Side Mosquito Abatement District
- Florida Keys Mosquito Control District
- Fresno Westside MAD
- Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District
- Hudson Regional Health Commission
- Hunterdon County Mosquito & Vector Control
- Iberia Parish MAD
- Indian River Mosquito Control District
- Jackson County Vector Control District
- Klamath Vector Control District
- Lake County Vector Control District
- Lee County Mosquito Control District
- Macon Mosquito Abatement District
- Magna Mosquito Abatement
- Manatee County MCD
- Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District
- Merced County Mosquito Abatement District
- Metropolitan Mosquito Control District
- Multnomah County Vector Control
- MVMD of Santa Barbara County
- North Morrow Vector Control District
- North Shore Mosquito Abatement District
- Northwest MAD
- Northwest Mosquito & Vector Control District
- Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District
- Osceola County Mosquito Control
- Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District
- Pasco County Mosquito Control District
- Pine Grove MAD
- Placer Mosquito & Vector Control District
- Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District
- Saginaw County Mosquito Abatement Commission
- Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District
- San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District
- San Joaquin County MVCD
- San Mateo County MVCD
- Santa Clara County Vector Control District
- Shasta Mosquito & Vector Control District
- South Salt Lake Valley MAD
- South Walton County Mosquito Control District
- St. Lucie County Mosquito Control District
- Sutter-Yuba MVCD
- Tangipahoa Mosquito Abatement District
- Teton County Weed & Pest District
- Toledo Area Sanitary District
- Warren County Mosquito Commission
- West Umatilla Mosquito Control District

REGIONAL/STATE ASSOCIATIONS

- Delaware Mosquito Control Section
- Florida Mosquito Control Association
- Georgia Mosquito Control Association
- Louisiana Mosquito Control Association
- Michigan Mosquito Control Association
- Mid-Atlantic MCA
- Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California
- New Jersey MCA
- NJ State Mosquito Control Coordination
- North Carolina Mosquito and Vector Control Association
- Northeastern Mosquito Control Association
- Northwest Mosquito & Vector Control Association
- Pennsylvania Vector Control Association
- South Carolina MCA
- Texas Mosquito Control Association
- Utah Mosquito Abatement Association
- Virginia Mosquito Control Association
- West Central Mosquito & Vector Control Association

INDUSTRY

- AMGUARD Environmental Technologies
- Azelis A&ES
- Central Life Sciences
- Clarke
- Envu Environmental Science
- Helicopter Services Inc
- Leading Edge
- London Foggers, Inc
- MGK Insect Control Solutions
- Rad Source Technologies, Inc.
- Superior-Angran LLC
- Target Specialty Products
- The McPherson Companies, Inc.
- Valent BioSciences LLC
- Vectech, Inc.
- Vector Disease Control International (VDCI)
- Veseris