



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Monroe County Health Department launched the Keys Action to Break the Cycle of Dengue community partnership on January 25, 2011; and

WHEREAS, dengue is a mosquito-borne illness with no vaccine or remedy that, although not normally life-threatening, can cause severe fever, pain and rash for extended periods of time and pose a particular threat to overall public health; and

WHEREAS, dengue is currently being experienced in epidemic proportions in tropical and subtropical regions around the world; and

WHEREAS, public health officials confirmed a total of 93 cases of dengue acquired in Key West during 2009 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, public health officials have yet to confirm any cases of dengue acquired in Key West in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Florida Keys Mosquito Control officials discovered during a random inspection of Key West properties in late 2010 the presence of the species of mosquito that can carry dengue on 1 in 5 properties surveyed; and

WHEREAS, one of the best ways to minimize the spread of dengue and protect public health is to eliminate standing water where potentially hazardous mosquitoes can reproduce; and

WHEREAS, Keys ABCD partners want every member of the community to play his or her part in eliminating reservoirs for standing water where potentially hazardous mosquitoes can reproduce.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Cates, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim
April 29-May 1, 2011 as

Keys Action to Break the Cycle of Dengue Clean-Up Weekend

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to take at least 15 minutes during the weekend to survey property for potential reservoirs of standing water, including, but not limited to, cisterns, flower pots and trivets, vases, garbage cans, recycling bins, fountains, children's pools, children's toys, boats and other watercraft, ashtrays, cups, bottles... Eliminate any standing water that may be present...

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 15th day of March 2011.

Craig Cates, MAYOR