

## ZOONOTIC AND OTHER ANIMAL DISEASES OF CONCERN IN MARYLAND

**Table 1. New or Ongoing Morbidity or Mortality Animal or Zoonotic Disease Events**

Estimated first onset	Estimated end date	Jurisdiction affected	Species affected	Diagnosis	Estimated # of cases to date	Lead agency	Comment
July 2013	ongoing	Mid-Atlantic coast	Bottlenose Dolphin	Morbillivirus	Mid-Atlantic (333) Maryland (18)	DNR	See below
August 2013	ongoing	Baltimore Metro Area	Humans	West Nile Virus	3	DHMH	See page 2
August 2013	ongoing	Worcester	Equine	Eastern Equine Encephalitis	(1) fatal	DHMH	See page 2
July 2013	ongoing	Montgomery, Worcester	Mosquitos	West Nile Virus	Montgomery (3), Worcester (1)	DHMH	See page 2

**For questions regarding specific disease events, please contact the lead agency noted. This contact information is for use by Maryland veterinarians and health professionals:**

MDA - Maryland Department of Agriculture: [ahops.mda@maryland.gov](mailto:ahops.mda@maryland.gov), 410-841-5810

DHMH - Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases: [dhmh.czvbd@maryland.gov](mailto:dhmh.czvbd@maryland.gov), 410-767-5649

DNR - Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Health Program, [FWHP@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:FWHP@dnr.state.md.us), 410-226-5193

### Bottlenose Dolphin Strandings

Bottlenose dolphins typically strand in summer months in Maryland waters along the Atlantic coast. However, in July 2013, an increase in strandings in the Chesapeake Bay began to occur. The number of dolphin strandings in Maryland is four times higher than previous years and continues to increase through late August with most strandings occurring along the Atlantic coast. Similar strandings have been reported from North Carolina to New York. The federal agency with regulatory authority for dolphins (and other marine mammals) - the U.S. Department of Commerce, has declared an Unusual Mortality Event (UME) due to the increase in strandings.

Diagnostic testing results indicate that the dolphins are positive for morbillivirus (similar to canine distemper). While there is no known risk from this virus to human or domestic animal health, it is recommended that beach-goers and boaters stay away from carcasses because there is the potential for disease transmission from decomposing

To report cases of disease in:	Contact:
<b>Domestic animals</b>	MDA Animal Health Program Office 410-841-5810 <a href="http://mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/Diseases.aspx">http://mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/Diseases.aspx</a>
<b>Wild animals</b>	MD DNR / USDA Wildlife Service Call Center 1-877-463-6497 <a href="http://www.wher.org">http://www.wher.org</a>
<b>Humans</b>	DHMH Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases 410-767-5649 <a href="http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx">http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx</a>

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### Bottlenose Dolphin Strandings (continued)

carcasses. Additionally, it is illegal to interact with live or dead marine mammals without proper authorization (Marine Mammal Protection Act fines may reach \$20,000, result in imprisonment, and seizure of vessels/ property).

To report **live or dead marine mammals** (dolphins, manatees, seals, whales) and **sea turtles**, please call the **MD DNR toll-free 24/7 call center: 1-800-628-9944**.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) links:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/health/mmume/midatltdolphins2013.html>

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/stories/2013/bottlenoseDolphinAnnouncement.html>

### Core Orientation Offered September 26<sup>th</sup> in Annapolis to Meet Requirements for New Accredited Veterinarians

The next Core Orientation required for anyone applying to be an Accredited Veterinarian *for the first time* is scheduled for **Thursday, September 26, 2013**, at the Maryland Department of Agriculture Headquarters office at 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway in Annapolis, Maryland. This Orientation is required as the second step in qualifying to be an Accredited Veterinarian in the National Veterinary Accreditation Program. All veterinarians are encouraged to become accredited at least for Category I animals, which is essentially small companion animals, as this will allow you to complete regulatory tasks such as certificates for domestic and international movement ("health certificates"). Category II Accreditation allows you to complete regulatory tasks, including health certificates, for all animals, including food and zoo animals. Veterinarians generally need to be licensed in Maryland and complete the Initial Accreditation Training (IAT) online prior to Core Orientation, and documentation indicating your completion of IAT will be required for admission to the Core Orientation Program. Information and access on training is available at [Initial Accreditation Training \(IAT\)](#).

Core Orientation is provided three times per year. To sign up for Core Orientation, contact the USDA office of the Area Veterinarian in Charge:

Area Veterinarian-in-Charge  
USDA, APHIS, VS  
400 North 8th Street Suite 726  
Richmond, VA 23219-4824  
Phone: (804) 343-2560, Fax: (804) 343-2599

Veterinarians needing to renew accreditation do not need Core Orientation, but do need supplemental on-line training before the end of their 3 year renewal date. For complete instructions on how to become an Accredited Veterinarian, or how to renew your Accreditation status, go to:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/vet\\_accreditation/areavet.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/vet_accreditation/areavet.shtml)

### West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus Confirmed in Maryland

Both West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) infections have been detected in humans, equines and mosquitoes in Maryland. To date, three human cases of WNV infection have been reported in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. One pool of mosquitoes from Worcester County collected by the MDA and three pools in Montgomery County collected by the U.S. Department of Defense tested positive for WNV infection. WNV positive mosquito pools have also been detected in neighboring Washington, DC. One horse in Worcester County died of EEE infection.

Because WNV is endemic in Maryland wildlife, birds are no longer routinely tested for WNV in the State; however, sick or injured birds can be reported to a local wildlife rehabilitator, which can be found on the DNR web site. Instructions on what to do when you find a sick or dead bird can be found on the DHMH web site. Veterinarians are reminded that equine neurologic syndromes and any of the equine encephalitides are reportable to MDA Animal Health and that equine arboviral testing is available at the DHMH Laboratories Administration. Veterinarians are reminded to vaccinate horses against WNV, EEE, and rabies.

## MARYLAND ANIMAL RABIES CASES, 2013

**Table 2. New (confirmed since the previous Bulletin) and Cumulative Rabies Cases, Week Ending August 24, 2013**

Jurisdiction	Bat Total (New)	Cat Total (New)	Cow Total (New)	Dog Total (New)	Fox Total (New)	Groundhog Total (New)	Raccoon Total (New)	Skunk Total (New)	Other Total (New)	Total (New)
Allegany		1					6(2)			7(2)
Anne Arundel	8(7)					1	17(1)			26(8)
Baltimore	1(1)	2			2(2)	4(2)	13(3)			22(8)
Baltimore City	9(4)	2			1(1)		10(3)			22(8)
Calvert	1(1)						3			4(1)
Caroline							4	3		7
Carroll	1	1			1		4(1)			7(1)
Cecil						1	4			5
Charles	1				4(1)		3			8(1)
Dorchester		1					1			2
Frederick		5			6(2)		12	2		25(2)
Garrett									2	2
Harford	3(3)	1					9(2)			13(5)
Howard							4(2)			4(2)
Kent	1(1)						1			2(1)
Montgomery	4(2)				2(1)		16(8)		2(2)	24(13)
Prince George's	3(1)				3(2)		7			13(3)
Queen Anne's	1						6(1)	1		8(1)
Somerset							1(1)			1(1)
St. Mary's					1(1)	1		3		5(1)
Talbot							2(1)	1		3(1)
Washington		1					1			2
Wicomico							9(5)	1		10(5)
Worcester					3		26(12)			29(12)
<b>Total (New)</b>	<b>33(20)</b>	<b>14</b>			<b>23(10)</b>	<b>7(2)</b>	<b>159(42)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4(2)</b>	<b>251(76)</b>

**Other: Horse-1, Goat-2(1), Opossum-1(1)**

**For complete animal rabies data:**

<http://phpa.dhmdh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx>

**To view previous issues of the Maryland One Health Bulletin (MOHB):**

<http://mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/md-one-health.aspx>

**Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Bulletin:**

<http://preparedness.dhmdh.maryland.gov/SitePages/Public%20Health%20And%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Bulletins.aspx>

**National Wildlife Health Center New and Ongoing Wildlife Mortality Events Nationwide:**

[http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality\\_events?ongoing.jsp](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality_events?ongoing.jsp)

**U.S. Livestock and Poultry Disease Events and Trends:**

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health)

**Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Influenza Report:**

<http://phpa.dhmdh.maryland.gov/influenza/fluwatch/SitePages/Home.aspx>