

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
November	November	Central Maryland	Horses	Equine Granulocytic Ehrlichiosis (EGE) (Anaplasmosis)	3	MDA	See below
September	October 31	Carroll & Washington	Horses	West Nile Virus	2	DHMH	See page 2
July 2012	October 31	Montgomery & Worcester	Mosquito Pools	West Nile virus	Montgomery: 10, Worcester: 1	MDA, DoD	See page 2
July 2012	October 31	15 Jurisdictions	Human	West Nile virus	46 (4 fatalities)	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, 410-841-5810

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

DNR - Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Health Program, FWhp@dnr.state.md.us, 410-226-5193

Hurricane Sandy and Pet Sheltering

Companion pet sheltering was provided at 25 out of 36 local shelters and at all three of the state shelters opened throughout Maryland between October 25 and November 3, 2012 during and in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. A total of 123 animals were provided public shelter. There were no reports of animal medical problems or animals that could not be housed. These public pet shelters ranged from co-located areas in the same building with their owners (often a school gymnasium) to off-site facilities such as animal control kennels or veterinary clinics.

In 2006, subsequent to Hurricane Katrina and the federal Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act (PETS Act), states have been required to provide for the shelter needs of companion animals, including dogs, cats, pocket pets and pet birds, during disasters such as hurricanes. This law was passed to encourage early evacuation of people who otherwise might stay behind with their pets during a disaster, further endangering their lives and creating a public emergency response hazard. Most Maryland counties and the State have acquired equipment and trained personnel to house and manage pets near their owners at mass shelter sites. In the case of a wide-spread,

To report cases of disease in:	Contact:
Domestic animals	MDA Animal Health Program Office 410-841-5810 www.mda.state.md.us/animal_health/diseases/reportable.php
Wild animals	MD DNR / USDA Wildlife Service Call Center 1-877-463-6497 http://www.whmn.org/wher/
Humans	DHMH Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases 410-767-5649 http://ideha.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx

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Hurricane Sandy and Pet Sheltering (continued):

catastrophic disaster such as occurred in New York and New Jersey with Hurricane Sandy, national organizations are available to provide added staffing, equipment and technical assistance.

For more information on the PETS Act: <https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/disaster/Pages/PETS-Act-FAQ.aspx>

To sign up to for the Maryland Volunteer Veterinary Corps to assist with animals in emergencies: http://www.mda.state.md.us/pdf/vetcorp_reg_form.pdf or email animalhealth.mda@maryland.gov

Equine Granulocytic Ehrlichiosis (EGE) (Anaplasmosis)

Three horses on a central Maryland farm were diagnosed with equine granulocytic ehrlichiosis (EGE), or anaplasmosis, in November. The horses showed signs of fever, depression, ataxia and decreased appetite, and one of the horses was so severely affected that it was euthanized. EGE is caused by the rickettsial bacterium *Anaplasma phagocytophilum* (previously known as *Ehrlichia equi* and *Ehrlichia phagocytophila*) and is transmitted by *Ixodes scapularis* (the same tick that transmits Lyme disease). The more severe clinical signs are seen in horses older than four years of age and include fever, depression, reluctance to move, limb edema, petechiation and icterus. Younger horses usually develop milder clinical signs, and may only present with a high fever. EGE is treated with antibiotics with excellent results in uncomplicated cases. Recovered horses are solidly immune for at least two years and are not carriers. EGE should be considered as a differential diagnosis for horses showing neurologic signs, along with EHV-1, viral encephalitis, rabies, primary liver disease, equine infectious anemia, purpura hemorrhagica, and viral arteritis.

Anaplasma phagocytophilum also causes human granulocytic anaplasmosis (HGA), but direct transmission between horses and humans is not believed to occur. Human anaplasmosis is reportable in Maryland.

For more information on EGE, see <http://www.merckvetmanual.com/mvm/index.jsp?cfile=htm/bc/52700.htm>

For more information on human granulocytic anaplasmosis, see

http://ideha.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/Ehrlich_Anapl.aspx and <http://www.cdc.gov/anaplasmosis/>

Arboviral disease in Maryland, 2012

The 2012 surveillance season in Maryland for West Nile virus (WNV) and other arboviruses of public health concern concluded on October 31, 2012. The Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Health and Mental Hygiene have discontinued enhanced surveillance for human encephalitis and aseptic meningitis and surveillance for arboviral activity in mosquitoes, equines, and wildlife.

Maryland experienced its highest number of human WNV cases since 2003. As of December 12, 2012, 46 human WNV cases were reported in 15 jurisdictions. Twenty-nine cases were classified as neuroinvasive (encephalitis and/or meningitis) and there were four fatalities. The number of human WNV cases this year doubled compared to those reported last year, when 23 cases were reported in Maryland. There were no reports of any other arboviral activity in humans in Maryland this year.

In addition to the human WNV activity, 11 pools of *Culex* mosquitoes tested positive for WNV in Montgomery County (10) and Worcester County (1). No Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) virus activity or other arboviral activity was detected in mosquitoes this year in Maryland. Two equine WNV cases were reported in Carroll and Washington counties.

Maryland arboviral surveillance statistics for 2012 and previous years are available online at <http://ideha.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/west-nile.aspx>.

MARYLAND ANIMAL RABIES CASES, 2012

Table 2. New (confirmed since the previous Bulletin) and Cumulative Rabies Cases, Week Ending December 15, 2012

Jurisdiction	Bat Total (New)	Cat Total (New)	Cow Total (New)	Dog Total (New)	Fox Total (New)	Total Total (New)	Groundhog Total (New)	Raccoon Total (New)	Skunk Total (New)	Other Total (New)	Total Total (New)
Allegany	1							1	1(1)	1	4(1)
Anne Arundel	9				1			8(1)	1		19(1)
Baltimore	3	1(1)			2(1)		1(1)	11(1)			18(4)
Baltimore City	19(1)							6(3)			25(4)
Calvert		1						1(1)	2		4(1)
Caroline					1			4(1)		1	6(1)
Carroll					2			13(4)	2(1)		17(5)
Cecil		3						7	1		11
Charles	7							7(1)	2(1)		16(2)
Dorchester		1			1		1(1)	3(1)			6(2)
Frederick		1			2(2)			26(6)	1(1)	1	31(9)
Garrett								4(1)	2(1)		6(2)
Harford	1	1(1)						17(4)			19(5)
Howard								3(1)			3(1)
Kent					1(1)						1(1)
Montgomery	5(1)	1			1			20(4)			27(5)
Prince George's	8				2			8(4)	3(1)		21(5)
Queen Anne's					1			8(3)	1		10(3)
Somerset		1			1			5(1)			7(1)
St. Mary's		1						8(2)	6		15(2)
Talbot								5(1)	2(1)		7(2)
Washington	1(1)	1			1			7(1)			10(2)
Wicomico					2			5	1		8
Worcester					2(1)		1	16(3)			19(4)
Total (New)	54(3)	12(2)	0	0	20(5)	3(2)	193(44)	25(7)	3	3	310(63)

Other: Sheep 1; Opossum 1; Deer 1

For complete animal rabies data:

<http://ideha.dhmv.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx>

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

http://mda.maryland.gov/animal_health/diseases/bulletin.php

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Biosurveillance Report:

<http://preparedness.dhmv.maryland.gov/Pages/Programs/Biosurveillance>

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

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

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Influenza Report:

<http://www.marylandfluwatch.org/>