

## 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 4, 2018	Ongoing	National Capital, Baltimore Metro	Human	WNV	3	MDH	n/a

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

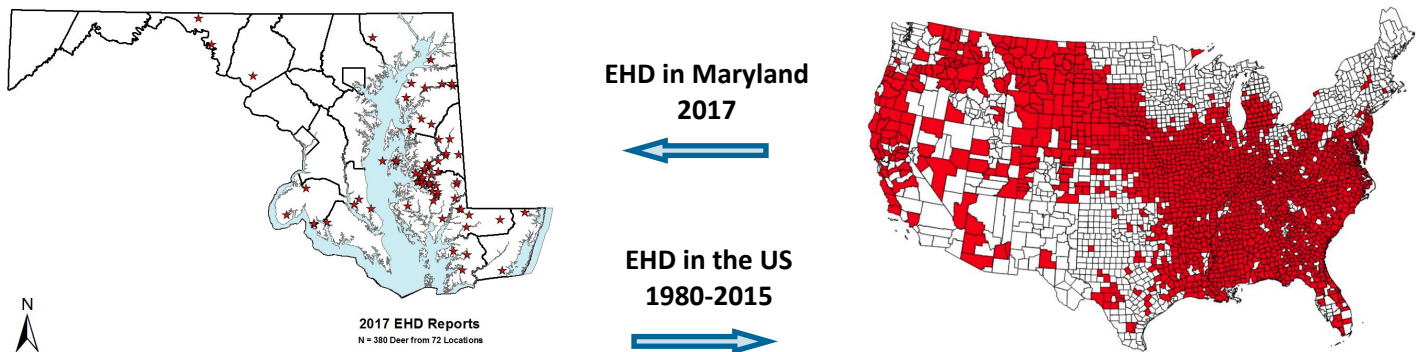
MDA - Maryland Department of Agriculture: [ahops.mda@maryland.gov](mailto:ahops.mda@maryland.gov), 410-841-5810

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

DNR - Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Health Program, 410-226-5193

### **Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease of White-Tailed Deer**

In the late summer/early fall months, Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (EHDV or EHD), also known as Hemorrhagic Disease (HD), is known to occur in White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*). In 2017, at least 380 white-tailed deer carcasses were reported to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) from around the state. Many more were likely affected and not reported. Most deer that were reported, were found dead in the Eastern Shore counties. The distribution of EHD in Maryland in 2017 and in the U. S. spanning 1980-2015 is illustrated in the maps below.



EHD is an endemic disease of cervids/deer that has not been found to affect humans. EHDV-1, EHDV-2, and EHDV-6 have been documented in Maryland white-tailed deer. *Orbivirus* and *Culicoides sp.* midges are the vectors for transmission. Clinical signs vary widely, but may include head and neck edema, cyanotic tongue, sloughing hooves and can be peracute, acute, or subacute in presentation.

EHD has been documented in Maryland cattle (sheep are also susceptible), though only mild clinical signs have been reported. Diagnostic sampling and testing at state and USDA animal health labs is required to distinguish between EHD and the Bluetongue virus, a closely related to EHD that affects mainly domestic cattle in the U.S..

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>Humans</b>	MDH Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases 410-767-5649 <a href="https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/pages/Home.aspx">https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/pages/Home.aspx</a>
<b>Wildlife</b>	877-463-6497 or 800-628-9944

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EHD can also resemble rabies (Maryland deer rabies cases have been documented), and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD - a different disease affecting MD deer).

Visit the MD DNR website for more information on deer diseases:

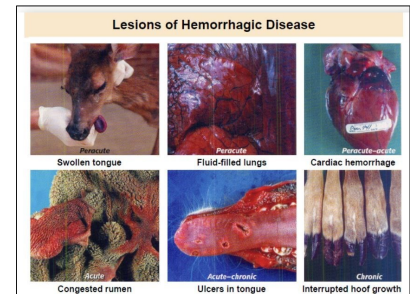
[www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/hunt\\_trap/Deer\\_Disease.aspx](http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/hunt_trap/Deer_Disease.aspx)

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) receives reports of wildlife disease cases via the 24/7 toll-free MD Natural Resources Police Call Center:

1-800-628-9944, the USDA/MD DNR Call Center: 1-877-463-6497, or the MD DNR Wildlife & Heritage Service office in Annapolis 1-410-260-8540.

More information including additional photos of clinical signs can be found in the EHD brochure developed by SCWDS. Their web page can be accessed or downloaded via the following link:

[http://vet.uga.edu/population\\_health\\_files/hemorrhagic-disease-brochure-2013.pdf](http://vet.uga.edu/population_health_files/hemorrhagic-disease-brochure-2013.pdf)



Photos of EHD in White-tailed deer from the *Field Manual of Wildlife Disease in the SE US*. University of Georgia /Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study (SCWDS)

### **Wanted Dead or Alive! 1-800-628-9944**

All year long, but especially in warmer months, marine mammals and sea turtles are found in the waters of the Atlantic Coast and Chesapeake Bay. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Health Program needs your help. If you see a marine mammal or sea turtle - dead or alive-anywhere in Maryland please report it to our 24/7, toll-free call center from any Maryland phone or cell number: 1-800-628-9944.

**Marine mammals:** Marine mammals in the mid-Atlantic include: any dolphin, porpoise, whale, seal, or manatee. Strandings for all species occur at different times throughout the year: sea turtles and dolphins are reported in warm months (May - October), whales - all year round, manatees in summer - fall months, and seals and porpoises in late winter - spring. Manatees and most large whales are listed as endangered and threatened (Endangered Species Act /ESA), but all marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). **FUN FACT:** Since the beginning of the MD Stranding Response Program in 1990 - 3 dead manatees have been recovered in our state, and sightings of live healthy manatees are reported each year. The first manatee sighting was "Chessie" in 1994. He was monitored around the upper Chesapeake Bay throughout the summer, rescued on October 1st, 1994 in Queenstown due to the threat of cold-stunning, and flown back to Florida for release.

**Sea turtles:** The four sea turtle species documented in Maryland are listed as threatened or endangered: loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, leatherback, and green. The loggerhead sea turtle is the most commonly observed in Maryland. Sea turtles can be large (3-4 ft. and 300 lbs. for a loggerhead), have oar-like flippers, and only come on land to nest. Snapping turtles and terrapins are not sea turtles, although they can be found in Maryland waters. **FUN FACT:** Since 1972, sea turtles have been documented nesting in Ocean City and Assateague Island National Seashore. In recent years - live hatchlings have been documented (2012 and 2013 few live hatchlings). In 2017 a successful nest with 100 live hatchlings was documented at Assateague by National Park Service staff.

**How you can help:** If you see a marine mammal or sea turtle please call our 24/7 toll-free number. If possible, take photos and call the 1-800-628-9944 for instructions. Note location, approximate size/weight of the animal, provide your name and number for further information, and if possible stand by the animal until a stranding staff person contacts you. DO NOT touch or try to move the animal, and stay at least 150 ft. from the animal at all times. Only authorized individuals are permitted and trained to handle these protected species. Fines of \$20,000 and/or imprisonment can result (MMPA & ESA). Enjoy wildlife viewing from a distance - KEEP WILDLIFE **WILD!!** Thank you for your support in keeping Maryland waterways clean and safe for all to enjoy! Please visit our website for more information on our program.

<http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/oxford/stranding.aspx>



## ZOONOTIC AND OTHER ANIMAL DISEASES OF CONCERN IN MARYLAND

### ***First Confirmed Longhorned Tick Found in Maryland***

State Urges Marylanders to take Precautions to Protect Livestock, Pets, and Humans

A National Veterinary Services Laboratory test has confirmed the presence of the *Haemaphysalis longicornis* tick, also known as the East Asian tick, the longhorned tick, and the bush tick, in Maryland. This is the first confirmed sighting of this tick species in the state. The longhorned tick was found on a white-tailed deer in Washington County and was confirmed on Friday, July 27.

The state's Departments of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources are working together to inform the public about this new, invasive species and to urge Marylanders to take the necessary precautions to protect livestock, pets, and family members, and report any unusual ticks or a high concentration of tick bites to the [University of Maryland's Assistant Professor of Entomology Dr. Megan Fritz](#).

"In order to keep livestock and pets safe, we encourage owners to check their animals for a high concentration of tick bites or abnormal ticks," said the Maryland Department of Agriculture's State Veterinarian Dr. Michael Radebaugh. "This species of ticks are known to cling to hosts in high numbers. If too many of these ticks attach themselves to an animal, it could cause stunted growth, decreased production, major blood loss, and has the potential to spread diseases."

Currently, the longhorned tick has been found in eight states — New Jersey, West Virginia, Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania and now Maryland. As of now, the longhorned ticks found in the United States — including the tick confirmed in Maryland — have not been found to carry infectious pathogens. This invasive species is known to carry several diseases in their natural habitats.

"The discovery of the longhorn tick in Maryland reinforces the need of residents to practice tick prevention methods," said Maryland Department of Health Public Health Services Deputy Secretary Dr. Howard Haft. "Avoiding wooded and brushy areas, wearing long pants and long sleeves, using repellent, and performing tick checks after being outside will all help prevent tickborne diseases."

This tick species is non-native to the area and is easily mistaken for other common ticks found in Maryland. Hard to see with the naked eye, the brown-colored tick has distinctive "horns" that can be viewed under a microscope. This species has the ability to reproduce asexually and can lay anywhere from 800-2,000 eggs after feeding on a host. The longhorned tick also feeds on a large variety of hosts, such as livestock, poultry, wild birds, pets, small mammals and humans.

Ticks are usually found in tall grasses, meadows, pastures and wooded areas. Protect yourself, your family, livestock and pets from tick bites by following the below recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

1. Avoid wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter. ([CDC](#))
2. Use EPA registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE), para-menthane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone. ([CDC](#))
3. Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants. Treat items like boots, pants, socks and tents with permethrin or buy permethrin-treated clothing and gear. ([CDC](#))



If you find a suspected longhorned tick on you, your livestock, or your pet, please fill out a [tick identification form](#). Information regarding shipping instructions and where to send the specimen is on the form.

For more information about the longhorned tick and its impact on animal health, please contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Animal Health program by phone 410-841-5810 or email [animalhealth.mda@maryland.gov](mailto:animalhealth.mda@maryland.gov).

For information about the longhorned tick concerning human health, please contact the Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases at the Maryland Department of Health by phone 410-767-5649 or email [mdh.czvbd@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.czvbd@maryland.gov).

## MARYLAND ANIMAL RABIES CASES, 2018

**Table 2. New (confirmed since the previous Bulletin) and Cumulative Rabies Cases, Week Ending August 11, 2018**

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										
Anne Arundel					1(1)	1(1)	1			3(2)
Baltimore	2(2)						11(4)			13(6)
Baltimore City	4(3)				1(1)		12(4)			17(8)
Calvert										
Caroline							2(1)			2(1)
Carroll		2(1)				1	3(1)			6(2)
Cecil							4(1)			4(1)
Charles							1	1		2
Dorchester							6(3)			6(3)
Frederick	6(6)	3(1)	1		1(1)		7(3)	1	1(1)	20(12)
Garrett			1				2(1)			3(1)
Harford					2(1)	1(1)	3			6(2)
Howard		4(3)					6(3)			10(6)
Kent	1(1)				1(1)					2(2)
Montgomery	1	1		1(1)	3(3)		13(4)			19(8)
Prince George's							7(3)			7(3)
Queen Anne's							2(1)			2(1)
Saint Mary's					2(2)		1			3(2)
Somerset							3(1)		1(1)	4(2)
Talbot					1		11(7)			12(7)
Washington		1(1)					2	2(1)		5(2)
Wicomico	1			1(1)	1		1(1)			4(2)
Worcester							13(5)	1	1(1)	15(6)
<b>Total (New)</b>	<b>15(12)</b>	<b>11(6)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2(2)</b>	<b>12(9)</b>	<b>3(2)</b>	<b>111(43)</b>	<b>5(1)</b>	<b>3(3)</b>	<b>165(79)</b>

**Other: Bobcat 1(1); Opossum 2(2)**

**For complete animal rabies data:**

<https://pha.health.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/pages/Data-and-Statistics.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 Weekly Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Bulletin:**

<https://preparedness.health.maryland.gov/Pages/PHPSA.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:**

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information>

**Maryland Department of Health Weekly Influenza Report:**

<https://pha.health.maryland.gov/influenza/Pages/home.aspx>