

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

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@maryland.gov 410-226-5193

Code of Maryland Regulations 10.06.02—Rabies—Revisions Now in Effect

The final amendments to the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.06.02 Communicable Diseases – Rabies are effective as of September 14, 2015 and are available at www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhome.html. The proposed revisions were published in the Maryland Register, issued on January 23, 2015. Be aware that the proposed changes to COMAR 10.06.02.02 Definitions were withdrawn (and are therefore not included in the final amendments) following a significant number of comments that could not be resolved during this revision process.

Many amendments were made to clarify the language or to align the regulations with current practice. Substantive amendments include:

COMAR 10.06.02.03 Human Rabies

- Modifies the reporting requirements for the local health officer to DHMH for preexposure and postexposure prophylaxis from monthly to at least every 3 months.

COMAR 10.06.02.04 Animal Rabies

- Provides for consideration on a case-by-case basis the conditions of strict isolation for domestic animals with an expired vaccination that have been exposed to rabies.
- Requires domestic animals that were exposed to rabies to be vaccinated at the start of the 6 month strict isolation period (instead of 5 months into the 6 month period).

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

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COMAR 10.06.02—*Rabies—Revisions Now in Effect (continued)*

COMAR 10.06.02.07 Disposition of Animals Following Bite or Non-Bite Contact to Humans

- Now requires a person to surrender a dead animal (in addition to the previously required live animal) for quarantine or rabies testing on the order of the local health officer or Public Health Veterinarian.

COMAR 10.06.02.10 Vaccination of Animals

- Clarifies the language requiring that dogs, cats and ferrets should be rabies vaccinated by the time the animal is 4 months old.

Multiple *Salmonella* outbreaks associated with zoonotic transmission, U.S., 2015

CDC is collaborating with public health, veterinary, and agriculture officials in affected states and with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to investigate several outbreaks of salmonellosis associated with zoonotic transmission. These include:

Multistate Outbreak of Human *Salmonella* Muenchen Infections Linked to Contact with Pet Crested Geckos

As of June 18, 2015, a total of 22 people infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Muenchen were reported from 17 states between January 1, 2014 and June 16, 2015, including one from Maryland. Three (14%) people were hospitalized. No deaths were reported.

Epidemiologic, laboratory, and traceback investigations conducted by officials in local, state, and federal public health agencies indicated that contact with pet geckos was the likely source of this outbreak. Eleven (85%) of 13 people interviewed reported contact with reptiles or their environments before becoming ill. The percentage of ill people in this outbreak reporting contact with a reptile is substantially higher than the percentage of U.S. households that reported owning a pet reptile in a 2013-2014 survey conducted by the American Pet Products Association (4.6%). When asked about the type of reptile, all 11 people reported contact with crested geckos. The Minnesota Public Health Laboratory isolated the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Muenchen from a sample collected from an ill person's pet crested gecko. This investigation is over; however, illnesses linked to contact with pet crested geckos could continue to be reported at a low level because pet crested gecko owners might be unaware of the risk of *Salmonella* infection.

This outbreak was a reminder to follow simple steps to enjoy your pet and keep your family healthy. CDC does not recommend that pet owners get rid of their geckos.

- * Reptiles can be carrying *Salmonella* bacteria but appear healthy and clean and show no signs of illness
- * It is very important to [wash your hands](#) thoroughly with soap and water right after touching pet reptiles or anything in the area where they live and roam.
- * More steps on how to enjoy your pet reptile and protect yourself and your family from illness are available [in English](#) and [en Español](#).

Additional information is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/muenchen-05-15/index.html>

Four Multistate Outbreaks of Human *Salmonella* Infections Linked to Live Poultry in Backyard Flocks

CDC continues to collaborate with public health, veterinary, and agriculture officials in many states and with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) to investigate several multistate outbreaks of human *Salmonella* infections linked to contact with live poultry. A total of 10 DNA fingerprints (outbreak strains) are now included in these outbreak investigations.

In the four outbreaks, as of July 29, 2015, a total of 218 people infected with one of the outbreak strains of *Salmonella* have been reported from 41 states. Four cases from Maryland are included in these outbreaks: *Salmonella* Hadar (3); *Salmonella* Indiana (1).

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Multiple Salmonella outbreaks associated with zoonotic transmission (continued)

Outbreak 1: *Salmonella* Enteritidis Investigation

As of July 29, 2015, 50 people infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Enteritidis have been reported from 17 states; none from Maryland. 23% have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

Outbreak 2: *Salmonella* Hadar Investigation

As of July 29, 2015, 74 people infected with the outbreak strains of *Salmonella* Hadar have been reported from 30 states; including three from Maryland. 54% have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

Outbreak 3: *Salmonella* Indiana Investigation

As of July 29, 2015, 61 people infected with the outbreak strains of *Salmonella* Indiana have been reported from 17 states; including one from Maryland. 30% have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

Outbreak 4: *Salmonella* Muenchen or *Salmonella* Muenster Investigation

As of July 29, 2015, 33 additional people have become infected with the outbreak strains of *Salmonella* Muenchen or *Salmonella* Muenster from 17 states; none in Maryland. 33% have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

In ongoing interviews, ill people answered questions about contact with animals and foods consumed during the week before becoming ill; to date, 117 (84%) of the 140 ill people interviewed reported contact with live poultry (e.g., chicks, chickens, ducks, ducklings) before becoming ill. Ninety-four ill people who had purchase records available reported purchasing live poultry from 32 different suppliers including feed supply stores, Co-Ops, “flea markets”, friends, and hatcheries in multiple states. Ill people reported purchasing live poultry for backyard flocks to produce eggs or meat, or to keep as pets. Many ill people in these outbreaks reported bringing the live baby poultry into their homes, and others reported kissing or cuddling with the live poultry. These behaviors increase a person’s risk of a *Salmonella* infection.

- Backyard flock owners should take steps to protect themselves and their families:
 - * Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in the area where the birds live and roam.
 - * Do not let live poultry inside the house.
 - * Learn about additional [recommendations](#) to prevent *Salmonella* infections from live poultry. These recommendations are important and apply to all live poultry, regardless of the age of the birds or where they were purchased.
- All suppliers of live-poultry including mail-order hatcheries, agricultural feed stores, and others that sell or display chicks, ducklings, and other live poultry should [provide health-related information](#) to owners and potential purchasers of these birds prior to the point of purchase. This should include information about the risk of acquiring a *Salmonella* infection from contact with live poultry.
- Consumers should only obtain birds from reputable sources including hatcheries who participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Poultry Improvement Plan (USDA-NPIP), [U.S. Voluntary *Salmonella* Monitoring Program](#). The intent of this program is to reduce the incidence of *Salmonella* in day-old poultry in the hatchery and give the poultry industry a better opportunity to reduce the incidence of *Salmonella* in their products.
 - * Read the [advice to mail-order hatcheries and feed stores](#) and others that sell or display live poultry.

Additional information is available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/live-poultry-07-15/index.html>

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Maryland Wildlife Rehabilitators Association Annual Membership Meeting and Conference

On Saturday November 7, 2015, we invite you to join us at the Annual Membership Meeting and Conference of the Maryland Wildlife Rehabilitators Association to be held at the Patuxent Visitor Center in Laurel, Maryland. This is an opportunity to renew your membership, catch up with old friends, and fulfill your mandatory CEU credits. Our exciting line-up of speakers features talks on wound management, squirrel rehabilitation, housing/caging, raccoon rehabilitation, an introduction to reptile and amphibian rehabilitation, avian influenza, and an informative roundtable entitled Call of the Wild, where we will go over those interesting phone calls we all receive and how best to respond.

So, mark your calendars, save the date, and look for the membership renewal application, registration, directions, lunch choices and more in your regular mail. We look forward to seeing you there!

Any questions, please contact any of the MWRA board members.

Kathleen Woods phoenixcenter@comcast.net or Suzanne Shoemaker, President owlmoonrc@gmail.com

Online course available - Zoonoses: Protecting People and Their Pets

This online course offered by the Center for Food Security and Public Health consists of 7 web-based lessons covering various aspects of zoonoses and disease prevention recommendations. The course was reviewed and approved by the AAVSB RACE program for 8.5 hours of continuing education. Information about the course is available at <http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/Zoonoses-Course/index.php>.

MARYLAND ANIMAL RABIES CASES, 2015

Table 2. New (confirmed since the previous Bulletin) and Cumulative Rabies Cases, Week Ending September 19, 2015

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(1)						2	1(1)		2(2)
Anne Arundel	23(18)	1(1)			1		8(3)			11(8)
Baltimore	11(10)	2(2)			2(1)		5(2)			5(5)
Baltimore City	19(16)				2(2)	1	10(5)			9(7)
Calvert	1(1)	1(1)								
Caroline				1						1
Carroll	2(2)	2(1)			2		5(2)			6(5)
Cecil							2(2)			
Charles		1(1)			1		1			2
Dorchester							3(2)	1(1)		1(1)
Frederick	9(9)	3(2)			1(1)		19(9)	1		12(9)
Garrett	1(1)						8			8(6)
Harford	4(4)	1			1		11(4)			9(7)
Howard	3(3)				2(1)		4(2)			3(1)
Kent	1						2(1)		1	3(2)
Montgomery	20(16)				1		13(6)	2	1(1)	14(9)
Prince George's	14(10)						4(1)			7(6)
Queen Anne's							6(4)			2(1)
Saint Mary's		2(1)					1			2(1)
Somerset		1					2			3(2)
Talbot	2(2)				1		1(1)			1(1)
Washington	3(3)						3			3(2)
Wicomico	2(2)						4			4(3)
Worcester							7(2)			5(2)
Total (New)	116(98)	14(9)		1	14(5)	1	121(46)	5(2)	1	113(80)

Other (1): Horse (1); Deer (1)

For complete animal rabies data:

<http://phpa.dhmh.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.dhmh.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

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

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/banner/help?1dmy&uril=wcm%3apath%3a%2FAPHIS_Content_Library%2FSA_Our_Focus%2FSA_Animal_Health

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Influenza Report:

<http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/influenza/fluwatch/SitePages/Home.aspx0>