



CHICKAHOMINY HEALTH NEWS

NEWSWORTHY

NATION/STATE

Salmonella

The Salmonella Saintpaul investigation is still ongoing. As of July 22, 2008, 1279 cases of infection have been reported to CDC since April. Virginia has seen 31 cases related to the outbreak. Based on the current investigation, previous food consumption advisories have shifted from tomatoes to jalapeno and Serrano peppers. FDA laboratories found Salmonella in a jalapeno pepper distributed from Texas and grown in Mexico. Raw tomatoes that are currently available to purchase now are safe to eat because they were harvested after the outbreak occurred. Contaminated peppers may still be on the market. See the CDC or FDA websites for more information.

Did You Know?

We recently updated our website to include all past issues of this newsletter. Additionally, the latest district statistics are posted.

Updated rabies guidelines have been posted on the VDH website along with the latest quarterly zoonotic newsletter. Check it out!

On July 1, the Code of Virginia was modified to require any program or facility licensed or operated by state agencies to report any and all outbreaks to VDH. The facilities impacted should have been informed.

Contact Us

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SPOTLIGHT: TICK-BORNE DISEASE

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the state of Virginia saw a rise in the number of tick-borne diseases being reported last year relative to 2006. This year, however, conditions such as Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF), and Ehrlichiosis are far less than the year-to-date (YTD) numbers reported for 2007.

Fewer numbers could be the result of several factors: 1) underreporting in 2008, 2) better personal protection to reduce exposure, 3) reduced infectivity rates of bacteria

circulating in tick populations, or 4) a more stringent change in the 2008 case definition for Lyme disease.

In Chickahominy for YTD 2008, there have been 12 lab reports of Lyme disease (n=7), RMSF (n=4), and Ehrlichiosis (n=1). NOTE: laboratory reports alone do not fit CDC case definitions. VDH follow-up is usually necessary to confirm case status.

Current CDC recommendations include a two-test approach for Lyme disease (EIA then Western Blot); RMSF and Ehrlichiosis are usually

confirmed by paired serum samples taken 2-4 weeks apart.



Deer tick (*Ixodes* species), Lyme disease vector



American dog tick (*Dermacentor* species), a RMSF vector

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

What we are seeing in

Chickahominy:

June '08 Reported Diseases

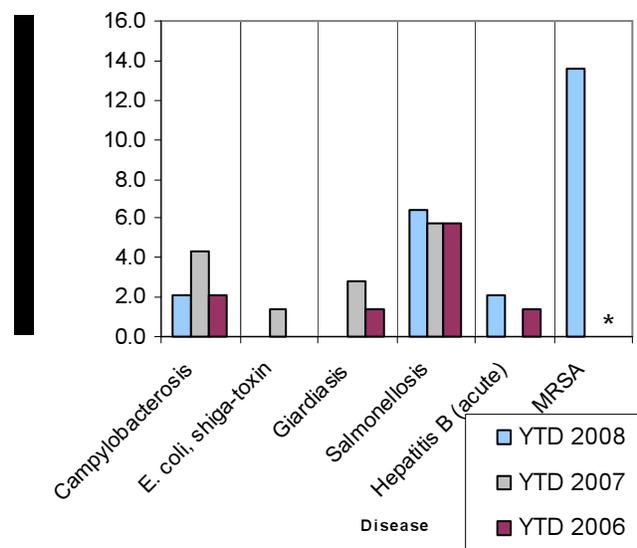
9 cases of Salmonellosis, age range 2-52 years old, unrelated infections except for a household cluster of 3 individuals

Household cluster of Varicella (3 cases, ages 1, 4, and 7 years old)

1 non-typeable *Haemophilus influenzae*, invasive in a 61 year old man

5 cases MRSA, invasive age range 24-77 years old

Select Diseases by Year-to-Date (calendar year)



* MRSA not reportable prior to October 2007