

PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE  OF VIRGINIA

NEWSWORTHY

NATION/STATE

Another bagged spinach recall

A voluntary recall of bagged spinach was initiated by the company Metz Fresh LLC on August 28, according to the Food and Drug Administration. A positive test for *Salmonella* was found at one of the packaging plants. No illness has been reported that relates to consumption of the bagged spinach. Consumers with questions about the recall should contact 831-386-1018 or visit the FDA's website.



West Nile Virus in Virginia

Through September 6, there have been 4 confirmed human West Nile Virus (WNV) cases, 2 of which were imported from the Western United States. Positive WNV mosquitoes have been found in Richmond City, Henrico County, and several counties in northern Virginia.

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SPOTLIGHT: CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS

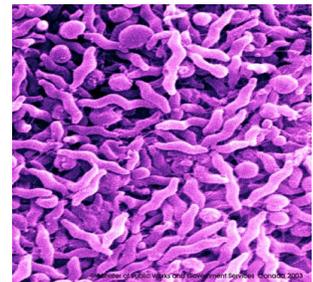
Campylobacteriosis is a relatively common diarrheal disease in the United States caused by the spiral-shaped gram-negative bacteria *Campylobacter*. Most infections are associated with handling raw chicken during food preparation. Symptoms include diarrhea, abdominal cramping, and fever (some additional symptoms can include bloody stool, nausea, and vomiting). Typically symptoms present in 2-5 days after ingestion of the organism. Asymptomatic cases are possible too.

bacterial infection annually. The CDC also says that there are many more cases going unreported or undiagnosed, with an estimated 1 million cases per year in the US.

There were 618 reported cases of campylobacteriosis in Virginia in 2005. The highest rate of infection was among infants (18.0 per 100,000). In Piedmont, the five-year average for 2001-2005 was 11.8 per 100,000. So far this year, we have seen 5 cases in our health district.

without antibiotics is usually less than one week.

Prevention of campylobacteriosis includes proper food handling procedures (cook all poultry thoroughly, use separate cutting boards for meat and raw vegetables, wash hands before and after preparing chicken).



Campylobacter sp. Photo courtesy of Minister of Public Works and Government Services, Canada

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that through active surveillance, approximately 15 in 100,000 US persons are diagnosed with the

Antibiotic treatment (erythromycin or a fluoroquinolone) is limited to severe cases in attempts to shorten the duration of symptoms. Recovery

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE 2007

Reported Diseases for August 2007:

- 5 unrelated cases of Salmonellosis (age range 2-85 years old)
- 1 clinically diagnosed case of chickenpox (2 yr old boy)
- 1 case of Campylobacteriosis (36 yr old female)
- 1 case Shiga-toxin producing E. coli (7 yr old)
- 1 confirmed Lyme disease
- 1 probable Rocky Mtn spotted fever

Year to Date Analysis of Selected Communicable Diseases for Piedmont Health District

