

Reportable Animal Diseases

REPORT WITHIN 24 HOURS:

Anthrax (Bacillus anthracis) Arboviral disease Avian chlamydiosis (Chlamydia psittaci) Bovine spongiform encephalopathy Brucellosis (Brucella species) Glanders (Burkholderia mallei) Hantavirus Hendra virus Highly pathogenic avian influenza Melioidosis (*Burkholderia pseudomallei*) Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex Nipah virus Plague (*Yersinia pestis*) Q Fever (*Coxiella burnettii*) Rabies Ricin toxin Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*) Typhus fever (*Rickettsia species*) Viral hemorrhagic fevers (filoviruses and arenaviruses)

Also reportable: unusual cases or clusters of animal illnesses or deaths that pose a threat to human health, and any evidence or suspicion of terrorism, including intentional or threatened use of viruses, bacteria, fungi, toxins, chemicals or radiological material to produce malfunction, illness or deaths in animals or humans.

Reporting shall include:

Clinical Reports

- Location or suspected location of affected animal(s)
- Name of any known owner
- Address of any known owner
- Name of reporting individual
- Address of reporting individual
- Name of disease or suspected disease being reported
- Type of animal(s) affected
- Number of animals affected
- Date of confirmation of disease or onset of clinical signs

Laboratory Reports

- Name of any known owner
- Address of any known owner
- Name of person who submitted specimen
- Address of person who submitted specimen
- Name of test
- Result of test
- Date submitted
- Date of positive test result
- Specimen type (e.g. swab)
- Specimen source (e.g. skin, mouth)

Who must report?

- Veterinarians
- Veterinary diagnostic laboratory directors

Why are certain animal diseases and infections reportable?

The Vermont Department of Health depends on timely reporting to ensure that cases of communicable disease in animals can be investigated quickly, and so steps can be taken to help keep Vermonters healthy and safe.

Vermont's list of reportable diseases and the time frames in which they are required to be reported to the Health Department are specified in Vermont law (Reportable and Communicable Diseases Rule). Both laboratory-confirmed cases and clinical diagnoses are reportable within 24 hours.

REPORT 24/7: 802-863-7240 or 1-800-640-4374 (VT only)

What happens to the information that is collected?

Data about reportable diseases and laboratory findings are used to:

- Guide immediate action to prevent the spread of diseases that affect Vermont communities
- · Monitor trends in the burden of a disease, including the detection of outbreaks
- Identify needs for programs to prevent and control disease, like immunization recommendations
- Evaluate public policy
- Detect changes in health practices
- Prioritize the allocation of health resources

How to report suspected or confirmed cases of disease:

Contact the Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program at **802-863-7240** or **800-640-4374** (within Vermont only) from 7:45 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. on business days. An epidemiologist is available 24/7 for diseases that require prompt public health follow-up.

Animal Bite Reporting

Any time an animal susceptible to rabies bites a human, that bite is reportable to the town health officer so they may follow up and supervise an observation period, when applicable. To search for town health officers by name or town visit: **healthvermont.gov/find-your-THO**.

Learn more: healthvermont.gov/diseasereporting