



Department of Health and Human Services  
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
286 Water Street  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011  
Tel: (207) 287-8016; Fax (207) 287-9058  
TTY Users: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

## Maine Health Alert Network (HAN) System

### PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

**To:** Health Care Providers  
**From:** Dr. Puthiery Va, Maine CDC Director  
**Subject:** Eastern Equine Encephalitis in Maine Resident  
**Date / Time:** Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 3:45PM  
**Priority:** **High**  
**Pages:** 2  
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## Eastern Equine Encephalitis in Maine Resident

### Summary

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported an Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) case in a Maine resident. This is the first human EEE case reported in Maine in 2025 and the fourth documented case of EEE in a Maine resident since 2001. **The state is elevating the [risk level of mosquito-borne diseases](#) across the state to high. The risk level is severe for EEE in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Somerset, and Waldo Counties, especially.** These counties have a history of EEE activity in past years.

The individual with EEE developed symptoms and was hospitalized with neuroinvasive disease in late August and remains hospitalized. Three samples were positive for EEE IgM at Maine's Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory. Specimens are being forwarded to U.S CDC for confirmation. The individual acquired the infection in Maine.

The purpose of this health advisory is to remind clinicians to consider testing for mosquito-borne arboviruses in patients presenting with unexplained flu-like symptoms, encephalitis, aseptic meningitis, or high fever. In Maine, mosquitoes can spread EEE, Jamestown Canyon virus (JCV), and West Nile virus (WNV).

### Background

Maine saw unprecedented arboviral activity across the state in 2024, including a high number of cases of EEE virus centered in north-central Maine. In 2024, Maine detected EEE in 1 mosquito pool (group of up to 50 mosquitoes collected during routine surveillance), 9 wild birds, 18 domestic animals, and 1

human in 8 of Maine's 16 counties. So far in 2025, there have been no EEE detections in mosquitoes or animals. Maine has detected WNV in 3 mosquito pools and 11 wild birds in 4 counties in 2025.

For more information on virus epidemiology, clinical presentations, risk factors, patient education, and prevention of arboviral diseases, please refer to two recent Maine CDC health advisories on this topic:

- [Seasonal Arbovirus Updates for Health Care Providers](#) (June 30, 2025)
- [Local Powassan Virus and West Nile Virus Activity](#) (July 29, 2025)

### Testing

Clinicians can refer to the [Arboviral Testing in Maine](#) guidance document and the [Seasonal Arbovirus Updates for Health Care Providers](#) health advisory for more information on testing. If testing through HETL, both the HETL [Requisition Form](#) and [Arboviral Submission Form](#) are required for testing.

### Treatment

Treatment of arboviral infections is supportive.

### Reporting

Arboviral illnesses are reportable in Maine. All suspected cases and positive laboratory reports should be reported by electronic laboratory reporting, or by phone (if immediately notifiable) to Maine CDC's 24/7 disease reporting and consultation line at 1-800-821-5821. **EEE is immediately notifiable.**

### Additional Information

- Arboviral testing in Maine (for health care providers): <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/sites/maine.gov.dhhs.mecdc/files/epi/Arboviral-Testing-Healthcare.pdf>
- How to submit human arboviral specimens to HETL: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/services/maine-public-health-laboratory/clinical-microbiology/submitting-samples>
- Maine CDC arboviral diseases website: [www.maine.gov/dhhs/vectorborne](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/vectorborne)
- Weekly arboviral reports (June to October): <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/data-reports/diseases/animal-and-insect-borne-diseases/arboviral-surveillance-reports>
- U.S. CDC mosquito website: [www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes](http://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes)
- Maine CDC disease reporting and consultation line: **1-800-821-5821** (available 24/7)