



**Public Health**  
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Tuscarawas County  
Health Department

News Release - For immediate release

07/18/2025

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Tuscarawas County Health Commissioner

330-343-5555 x1840

### **Tuscarawas County Health Department Reports Confirmed Case of La Crosse Virus**

DOVER— The Tuscarawas County Health Department (TCHD) was notified on July 17, 2025, of a confirmed human case of La Crosse virus in a 66-year-old male residing in Uhrichsville. This is the first case of La Crosse virus in a Tuscarawas County resident since 2021. An average of 20 cases per year are reported in Ohio. While the individual did develop viral meningitis, for which he was hospitalized, he is now at home recovering.

“La Crosse virus is rare in Ohio, and we don’t want anyone to panic,” explained Katie Seward, MPH, Tuscarawas County Health Commissioner. “We are simply asking Uhrichsville area residents to be careful and talk with their medical providers about any health concerns”.


La Crosse is a viral disease spread to people by the bite of an infected *Aedes triseriatus* (Eastern tree hole) mosquito. Tree hole mosquitoes are generally found in woodland/forested environments, and are rare in open areas. They prefer to lay eggs in pools of water found in tree holes, but will also lay eggs in man-made water-holding containers, particularly discarded tires. Their eggs can live through the winter when located in dry sites and become active with water in spring. The females most often feed on the blood of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. Main hosts for this mosquito are the eastern chipmunk, the gray squirrel, and fox squirrels. This mosquito type is also a known vector of canine heartworm, meaning it can transmit the heartworm parasite to dogs.



The Health Department will be responding to the positive test results according to best practice recommendations and will be conducting mosquito control activities in the City of Uhrichsville on July 18, 2025. Additionally, mosquito spraying will take place in the City of Uhrichsville from 8 to 11 pm on the evening of Monday, July 21, 2025. In the event of inclement weather, spraying will be postponed.



Persons with respiratory problems should take appropriate actions to remain indoors while spraying is occurring. The Tuscarawas County Health Department accepts requests for no-spray areas from all residents. To submit a no-spray request, please contact the TCHD Bureau of Environmental Health Services by phone at (330) 343-5550 or by email at [eh@tchdnow.org](mailto:eh@tchdnow.org).

#### **Symptoms of La Crosse Virus**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), many people infected with the La Crosse virus have no apparent symptoms. For those who do, symptoms typically begin five to 15 days after a mosquito bite and include nonspecific symptoms such as:

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Dover, OH 44622

 (330) 343-5555  
 (330) 343-1601

 [www.tchdnow.org](http://www.tchdnow.org)  
 [director@tchdnow.org](mailto:director@tchdnow.org)



- Fever.
- Headache.
- Nausea.
- Vomiting.
- Lethargy.

Severe disease most often occurs among children less than 16 years old and is characterized by:

- Seizures.
- Coma.
- Paralysis.
- A variety of neurologic complications after recovery.

Death from infection with the La Crosse virus is rare and occurs in less than 1% of cases. There are no vaccines to prevent or medicines to treat La Crosse. You can reduce your risk of infection by preventing mosquito bites.

### **Prevention**

Knowing mosquitoes that carry La Crosse Virus are active in the Tuscarawas County community, TCHD officials encourage residents to follow these guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health to take an active part in reducing the mosquito population:

- Use insect repellent when you go outdoors, and when weather permits, wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks. Mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing, so spraying clothes with repellent will provide extra protection.
- Follow these tips to reduce mosquito activity in and around your property: install or repair screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside; use your air conditioning, if you have it; and help reduce the number of mosquitoes around your home by emptying standing water from flowerpots, gutters, buckets, pool covers, pet water dishes, discarded tires and birdbaths at least every three days. Fill tree holes with dirt, sand, or a pliable insulation cement to prevent mosquito breeding.

For more details about the mosquito control program at the Tuscarawas County Health Department, please visit <https://www.tchdnow.org/mosquito-control.html> or call (330) 343-5550.

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