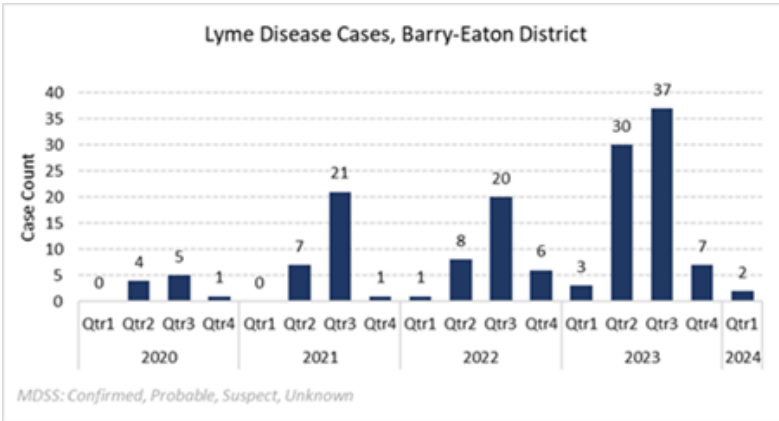


HEALTHY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

A School Health Newsletter from the Barry-Eaton District Health Department

Risk for Increased Lyme Disease Cases in Barry and Eaton Counties in 2024



Lyme disease is on the rise in Barry-Eaton District. The number of cases each year has been going up since 2020. Back then, there were only 10 cases, but by 2023 that number had shot up to 77 cases. So far this year, things are looking similar – 2 cases were already found in the first quarter, similar to 2023. Lyme disease used to mostly show up in the warmer months, but now doctors are finding it more often in spring and fall too. This means it's extra important to be tick-safe all year round!

Tips and Tricks for Dealing with Ticks

- Use insect / tick repellent with DEET
- Stay on the center of trails when hiking or camping
- Check yourself and family members carefully when you get home
- Find a tick? Use fine point tweezers to remove it by grasping it firmly as close to the skin as possible and pull straight up to minimize the chance of breakage
- Contact your healthcare provider if part of the tick remains in the skin

New Trends of Nicotine Education Sheet Available

~ NEW DEVICES TO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ~

Jodk Bottle Vape

- 800-9000 puffs in each unit (3-10 packs of regular cigarettes)
- high-purity salt nicotine in nicotine-free models
- **Company Marketing Description:** JODK one of the best e-cigarettes in the world

Bracelet Pipe

- Fully functional piece disguised as an unassuming bracelet

Full PDF available at:

<https://barryeatonhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Beyond-the-Smokescreen-2024.pdf>

Summer Hearing and Vision Screening Dates

- **June 4**
 - Barry (AM only)
 - Eaton
- **June 24**
 - Eaton (AM only)
- **June 27**
 - Barry (AM only)
- **July 15**
 - Barry (AM only)
 - Eaton
- **July 22**
 - Barry (AM only)
 - Eaton

For Appointment Availability
 Barry: 330 W. Woodlawn Ave.
 (269) 945-9516
 Eaton: 1033 Healthcare Dr.
 (517) 543-2430



We Would Like Your Feedback!

Please take a moment and complete the survey linked below. We are looking for ways to improve our communication to better serve your needs.

[Healthy Schools Newsletter Use Survey](#)

HEALTHY SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

A School Health Newsletter from the Barry-Eaton District Health Department

CDC Guidance on Preventing the Spread of Infections in Schools: 2024-25 School Year

- Schools can prevent the spread of disease via:
 - **Education** and reinforcement of **handwashing** and respiratory etiquette
 - Improvement of **ventilation** in existing, remodeled, and planned new buildings
 - **Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting** spaces according to page 5 of the [Managing CD in Schools Handbook](#)
 - Promotion of **vaccinations** for students, staff, and community members

When students or staff fall ill, slow the spread of infectious disease by:

- Advising individuals to stay home when they are sick, especially when they have a fever
- Making available Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) like masks and gloves for school staff that care for sick students
- Continue following good personal and environmental hygiene like handwashing, respiratory etiquette, cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting

In cases of elevated illness activity, additional measures like masking, increasing distance between students, and screening for illness can also be implemented.

*Please continue to alert BEDHD in instances of suspected or confirmed disease outbreaks by contacting our **Communicable Disease in Schools line at (517) 541-2677** or schools@bedhd.org.*

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI / “Bird Flu”)

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI or "bird flu") has been identified in both dairy cattle and poultry across several counties in Michigan including Barry County. A dairy farmer in Michigan tested positive for H5N1 (bird flu) on May 22.

HPAI poses potential health risks to both animals and humans. Infected cows and birds can spread the virus to humans when a person touches something with the virus on it and then touches their eyes, nose, or mouth, or by breathing it in.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is requiring a secure perimeter around dairy farms to limit access and decrease the potential for spread.

BEDHD advises against scheduling any further field trips to farms with dairy cows or poultry until further notice.

If a school in your district has taken a field trip to any farm that has dairy cows or poultry, please contact our Communicable Disease line at (517) 541-2641 to discuss the situation and determine the potential health risk to individuals.

If you have any general questions or concerns around HPAI, please do not hesitate to contact us at (517) 543-2430 or hpai@bedhd.org.

