



Loudoun County Ebola Preparedness Fact Sheet

Current Situation

There are **no cases of Ebola** in our area. Measures are in place to effectively deal with an Ebola-infected person if one were to arrive in our region. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and local public health officials believe the risk of Ebola spreading widely in the United States is low.

Enhanced Screening at Dulles International Airport

Beginning Thursday, travelers from the Ebola-affected countries entering the U.S. through Dulles International and four other U.S. airports (New York's JFK, Newark, Chicago's O'Hare and Atlanta international-which covers 94% of all travelers from the nations to the US) will receive enhanced entry screening. Travelers departing from these countries have been screened prior to arriving in the U.S. Passengers arriving from Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone will:

- Be asked to answer questions to determine their risk of infection, have their temperatures taken and be observed for other symptoms of Ebola;
- If symptoms exist, be referred to CDC officials on site for further evaluation.
- Receive information about Ebola, its symptoms, what to do if symptoms develop and information on how to contact doctors if travelers need medical attention;

CDC officials at the airport will determine whether a traveler can continue to travel, should be taken to a hospital for evaluation, testing and treatment, or is referred to a local health department for further monitoring and support.

This enhanced screening of those entering the U.S. from the affected countries in West Africa will support the surveillance and monitoring already in place throughout the region at hospital emergency rooms and other health facilities.

Information about Screening of Travelers at Airports can be found at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/images/JointAirportScreeningFactSheet.pdf>

Loudoun is Ready

Loudoun officials are ready and prepared to identify and contain the potential Ebola threat. Loudoun County officials are working closely with the CDC and following their tested guidelines. The county is actively engaged in a multi-agency response plan, working with our local, state and federal partners.

Loudoun has experience with controlling infectious disease outbreaks such as Anthrax, SARS, and H1N1 influenza. We work in conjunction with the entire National Capital Region including various Health Departments, public safety agencies and health care providers.

If you have questions, please call 703-737-8300.

Stopping an Outbreak

We can stop Ebola by: increasing surveillance, identifying and confirming cases, isolating ill individuals, implementing infection controls, monitoring for exposed individuals, and isolation of symptomatic contacts.

Educate yourself

Please educate yourself and others about Ebola to prevent spread of disease and panic:

1. People with Ebola cannot spread germs until they have symptoms.
2. Ebola is spread through direct skin or mucous membrane contact with blood and other body fluids from a person with Ebola. Mucous membranes include the surfaces of your mouth, nose, and eyes. Body fluids include urine, saliva, sweat, feces, vomit, breast milk, and semen.
3. Ebola is NOT spread through breathing.

Five Things You Should Do

1. **Wash your hands** -- for 20 seconds (hint: sing "Happy Birthday" twice) -- frequently, using soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, then wash your hands with soap and water when you can.
2. **Cover your cough** or sneeze with your elbow. If you use a tissue, wash your hands with soap and water after throwing away the tissue.
3. **Get a flu shot** every year.
4. **Avoid contact** with anyone who is sick. If that is not possible, keep a three-foot distance. Offer people a tissue to cover their coughs and sneezes. Direct them to where they can wash their hands or offer hand sanitizer.
5. **Stay home** when you or your loved ones are sick. Return to work or school when you are symptom-free for 24 hours (including fever), and no longer taking fever-reducing medications.

Find Out More

Ebola is a rare and deadly disease caused by infection with a virus. The CDC is the best source of Ebola information. Be informed about the disease and learn how you can protect yourself and care for your family. Visit www.cdc.gov to find out how Ebola is spread and what every citizen needs to know about Ebola.

Links to Helpful Information

Ebola Definition Factsheet: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-factsheet.pdf>

Facts about Ebola Infographic: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/facts-about-ebola.pdf>

Facts about Ebola in the US (1 Page poster): <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/infographic.pdf>