

# State health officials report 2nd measles case

FRANKFORT — Last week, Kentucky health officials announced that a second confirmed measles case has been reported in the commonwealth in 2025.

The second case occurred in March in a child who was traveling through the commonwealth when they sought treatment. The child, who is not a resident of the United States, was diagnosed at a health care facility in Kentucky, which is why the case will be counted as a Kentucky incident.

The health care facility adhered to strict safety protocols, eliminating the risk of spread to other patients. There are no other cases and no risks of exposure to Kentuckians associated with this case. This Kentucky associated measles case comes amidst health officials’ reporting

**Results from the most recent assessment of kindergarten vaccines for the 2024-25 school year were released, which show that immunization coverage has dropped to the lowest rates in over seven years for Kentucky kindergarteners. Coverage among kindergartners for the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, which is effective at preventing diseases, including measles, and is legally required for school attendance in Kentucky, has dropped to 86.9%, which is lower than the national average of 93%.**

declining immunization rates among Kentucky’s kindergartners.

Results from the most recent assessment of kindergarten vaccines for the 2024-25 school year were released, which show that immunization coverage has dropped to the lowest rates in over seven years for Kentucky kindergarteners. Coverage among kindergartners for the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, which is effective at preventing diseases,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 800 cases so far in 2025, including several large outbreaks in other states.

“These are concerning trends that we are seeing,” said Kentucky Department for Public Health Commissioner Dr. Steven Stack. “It is really important that folks are properly informed about vaccines so they can take safe steps to protect their children. Vaccines are

safe and effective. We urge all parents to have their children vaccinated to ensure they are protected from preventable diseases like measles.”

Measles is a highly contagious respiratory virus that can cause serious health complications, especially in young children. Measles is spread through the air and can remain suspended in the air for up to two hours. Early symptoms of measles begin 8-12 days after exposure and include high fever, cough, runny nose and red/watery eyes. The characteristic measles rash typically appears three to five days after symptoms begin, usually on the face before spreading down to the rest of the body.

The first dose of measles vaccine is routinely administered in combination with mumps and

rubella vaccine (MMR) to children at age 12 months through 15 months, and a second dose at age 4 through 6. Two doses of MMR vaccine is 97% effective against measles according to the CDC.

Full results of the most recent assessment of kindergarten vaccines are available on the Kentucky’s immunization data dashboard.

Kentucky’s first confirmed measles case of 2025 occurred in an adult Kentucky resident in February. There were no other confirmed cases associated with the February measles case.

All Lincoln Trail District Health Department health centers provide measles vaccine. Residents are encouraged to speak to their primary care doctor to see if measles vaccination is needed.

## WILDLIFE

FROM **PAGE A4**

Then there are raccoons, one of my favorite animals. They started coming when they discovered I fed cats on the back porch. There weren’t very many of them but friends of mine trapped some at their barn and brought them to me. Raccoons usually have their babies in April. Georgette, the mama,

brings her babies to visit me in June. I am always delighted to see them. (I name all my mama raccoons Georgette, by the way. The males are George.)

I have had skunks, groundhogs, chipmunks, squirrels, rabbits, and birds of every kind since St. Francis took up residence but the most outstanding and surprising was the juvenile black bear who came in 2011. Before you ask, I have never seen

another but would love it if one visited me again.

Robin Buis and I share a family of red foxes. The mama has the babies in Robin’s barn and the papa comes to my house for dog food and pork neckbones. I was told by an authority that the papa fox takes the bones back to the babies. Last summer I was treated to visits from the babies who played baby fox games in my yard.

In early March this year

I looked out and couldn’t see my little St. Francis statue. I was not able to tramp into the woods to check on him. My niece, bless her, found that he had fallen over, probably from all the torrential rain and the water rushing down the hill. She set him back in place and he is out there now telling the wildlife that the salty old broad living there will probably feed them. Let there be wildlife! Isn’t that a hoot?

## ATTACK

FROM **PAGE A4**

Imagine this: legions of these things climbing all over everything. Then they all stop and turn their unblinking red eyes toward you and attack, flying, swarming, hissing and grasping at your clothes. If it gets bad, I probably won’t go outside unarmed.

Would badminton rackets work against them?

I don’t know how many 17-year cicadas actually emerge around here in Casey County. I am interested and somewhat anxious to find out.

I looked through the 2008 Casey County News issues (from 17 years ago) and didn’t see any mention of them. Maybe it won’t be as traumatizing here as it will be elsewhere.

## PROTECT

FROM **PAGE A4**

Unfortunately, those who abuse children are not always strangers. Far too often, they are family friends, neighbors, people in trusted positions. To help ensure parents are aware of their children’s communications, we approved SB 181, which requires school staff and volunteers to use a traceable communication system for all electronic communications with students and bans the use of personal platforms like texting without written parental consent.

**NEED TO REPORT ABUSE?**

If you are concerned that any child you know is the victim of abuse or neglect, please report to 1-800-752-6200 or 1-877-597-2331.

Those who prey on children are the worst of the worst, and we’re sending a message that we are willing to fight to protect our children. However, we must acknowledge that not all neglect stems from malice — sometimes it is the result of poverty, addiction, or lack of support. A holistic, but principled approach means addressing the root causes without expanding government overreach. That includes policies the

legislature has passed that encourage work, strengthen families, and provide access to mental health and addiction recovery services.

Education is another key pillar. We must ensure our schools are equipped to recognize signs of abuse and respond appropriately. Teachers, coaches, and school staff are often the first line of defense. Proper training and resources can make the difference between

a child being rescued — or falling through the cracks. With this in mind, we passed legislation, SB 120, that requires school administrators and coaches to be trained on their duty to report and procedures for reporting child maltreatment and mandates student-athlete consent forms include information on the right to report child dependency, neglect, or abuse as well as a reminder of the mandatory reporting law.

By strengthening families, supporting community organizations, enforcing the law, and making sure our support

systems are working, we can protect our children while staying true to conservative principles. Because every child deserves to grow up in a safe, loving home — and as Kentuckians, we will not settle for anything less.

If you are concerned that any child you know is the victim of abuse or neglect, please report to 1-800-752-6200 or 1-877-597-2331.

As always, I can be reached anytime through the toll-free message line in Frankfort at 1-800-372-7181. You can also contact me via email at Daniel.Elliott@kylegislature.gov and keep track through the Kentucky legislature’s website at legislature.ky.gov.

## THOUGHTS

FROM **PAGE A4**

**EASY, CHEESY POTATO CASSEROLE**

- 8 cups raw shredded potatoes
- 2 ½ cups milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons flour
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 2 cups shredded cheese

Instructions

1. Mix milk, flour, salt, and pepper together.
2. Set aside.
3. Pour shredded potatoes into a 9x13-inch greased pan.
4. Dot with butter.
5. Pour milk mixture on top and cover with foil and bake at 350 for 50 minutes.
6. Remove from oven and top with cheese. Bake an additional 10 minutes.

YOUR CUSTOMER JUST READ THIS AD.

Advertise in The Casey County News.

### NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY

#### RECOVERY BY ENVIRONMENTAL SURCHARGE OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY'S 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PLAN

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that in an April 30, 2025 Application, Kentucky Utilities Company (“KU”) is seeking approval by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (“Commission”) in Case No. 2025-00105, pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 278.183, of an amended compliance plan (“2025 Plan”). (Collectively, KU’s Application and supporting testimony and exhibits are KU’s “tariff filing.”) If approved, KU will begin recovering capital costs associated with a new pollution control facility in the 2025 Plan under KU’s existing Electric Rate Schedule ECR (also known as the Environmental Surcharge tariff) through an increase in the environmental surcharge on customers’ bills beginning in December 2025.

KU filed an application with the Commission on February 28, 2025, in Case No. 2025-00045 seeking approval to construct a selective catalytic reduction system at the Ghent generating station to reduce nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions, which are a precursor to ozone. In Case No. 2025-00105, KU is seeking an order approving the 2025 Plan to recover the costs of this new pollution control facility through its Environmental Surcharge tariff. This project will help ensure ongoing compliance with regulations issued under the federal Clean Air Act as amended, including the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone.

The estimated total capital cost of this new pollution control facility is \$152.3 million. Additionally, KU is requesting recovery of future incremental capital and operation and maintenance expenses associated with this new pollution control facility. KU is also asking to recover the cost of publishing this customer notice through the Environmental Surcharge over 12 months and to have Environmental Surcharge recovery of future Commission-approved administrative expenses, including customer notice costs.

Beginning in December 2025, the initial bill impact for KU’s Group 1 customers is estimated to be a 0.01% increase with a maximum increase of 0.81% in 2029. Group 1 includes Rate Schedules Residential Service (RS), Residential Time-of-Day Energy Service (RTODE), Residential Time-of-Day Demand Service (RTODD), Volunteer Fire Department Service (VFD), All Electric School (AES), and all Lighting Rates (i.e., LS, RLS, LE, and TE).

RS and VFD customers using 1,085 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$1.09. RTODE customers using 1,043 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.01 up to \$1.14. RTODD customers using 987 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.02 up to \$1.80. AES customers using 25,620 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.30 up to \$24.28. LS and RLS customers could expect a monthly increase of \$0.00 up to \$0.12. LE customers using 2,473 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.02 up to \$1.59. TE customers using 147 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.00 up to \$0.15.

Beginning in December 2025, the initial bill impact for KU’s Group 2 customers is estimated to be a 0.01% increase with a maximum increase of 1.10% in 2029. Group 2 includes Rate Schedules General Service (GS), General Time-of-Day Energy Service (GTODE), General Time-of-Day Demand Service (GTODD), Power Service (PS), Time-of-Day Secondary Service (TODS), Time-of-Day Primary Service (TODP), Retail Transmission Service (RTS), Fluctuating Load Service (FLS), and Outdoor Sports Lighting Service (OSL).

GS customers using 1,657 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.03 up to \$2.41. GTODD customers using 19,652 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.31 up to \$25.26. PS-Secondary customers using 30,434 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.39 up to \$32.35. PS-Primary customers using 35,028 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.45 up to \$36.82. TODS customers using 189,538 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$1.54 up to \$126.82. TODP customers using 1,242,574 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$8.25 up to \$678.42. RTS customers using 7,387,224 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$38.91 up to \$3,199.31. FLS-Transmission customers using 44,229,667 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$237.46 up to \$19,525.53. OSL-Secondary customers using 4,627 kWh/month could expect a monthly increase of \$0.17 up to \$13.87.

The Application described in this Notice is proposed by KU, but the Commission may issue an order resulting in an environmental surcharge for customers other than the environmental surcharge described in this Notice.

Comments regarding KU’s 2025 Plan and Application may be submitted to the Commission through its website or by mail to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602.

Any person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication of this Notice, the Commission may take final action on the Application.

Any person may examine KU’s tariff filing at the Commission’s offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Commission’s website at <http://psc.ky.gov> or KU’s website (<http://www.lge-ku.com>) after KU makes its tariff filing on April 30, 2025. KU has requested a deviation from the requirement to make the tariff filing available at its office at One Quality Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507. If the Commission denies that request, KU will make the tariff filing available at its office upon request by any person.