

This is an official
CDC HEALTH UPDATE

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Final Test Results for *Bacillus anthracis* at Anacostia Naval Postal Sorting Facility in Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area

The final test results for *Bacillus anthracis* at Anacostia Naval Postal Sorting facility are **Negative**.

PCR assays and final culture results from testing conducted by the Naval Medical Research Institute on environmental samples collected from at the Anacostia Naval Postal Facility have been completed and did not suggest the presence of *Bacillus anthracis*. A single screening assay on a routine air filter sample done on November 5th at this facility using commercial technology was read as positive, prompting closure of the facility and 11 other postal facilities in metropolitan Washington that fed mail to this location. All postal facilities have been cleared for reopening. Workers from the Anacostia facility have been instructed that they can stop taking antibiotic prophylaxis.

Additional information on Anthrax can be found at: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/anthrax/index.asp>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protects people's health and safety by preventing and controlling diseases and injuries; enhances health decisions by providing credible information on critical health issues; and promotes healthy living through strong partnerships with local, national and international organizations.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES