Hantavirus in Montana

Protect yourself when cleaning a rodent-infested area:

- Open windows and doors to air out the space for 30 minutes
- Wear rubber or plastic gloves
- Thoroughly spray or soak the area with a disinfectant to reduce dust
- Wipe up any droppings with a sponge or paper towel; discard after use
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water when finished
- Avoid sweeping or vacuuming areas with rodent droppings
- In cases of extreme infestation, consider seeking professional services

Symptoms of hantavirus infection include fatigue, fever, muscle aches, and severe shortness of breath - visiting a health care provider when symptoms start can save your life

Deer mice, Peromyscus maniculatus, are the most common host of the virus

Based on studies conducted in Montana, 1 in 8 deer mice had evidence of hantavirus infection