LA County Department of Public Health I Information for Backyard Flock Owner

H5 BIRD FLU

Also known as avian influenza (H5N1), **H5 bird flu** is a disease that regularly infects wild birds and can be deadly in poultry such as chickens and turkeys. It is possible, though rare, for a human to get infected. Bird flu spreads from contact with sick birds or surfaces contaminated with sick bird saliva, snot, or feces (poop).



HOW TO KEEP YOUR FLOCK SAFE

Keep wild birds and rodents away from your flock and their food. Take down bird feeders. Keep poultry feed in closed containers and consider putting up netting around your flock.



Keep your poultry separate from other animals including pets (cats, dogs) and other livestock (such as cows, goats, etc.)



Do not share tools or equipment with other farms. If you must share tools, clean them before you use them.



Do not kiss or snuggle with your birds. Wash your hands before and after coming into contact with poultry and animals.



Know the signs of bird flu, including sudden death, decreased egg production, purple discoloration of wattle and comb, swelling around the eyes, and neurologic signs such as twisted neck, difficulty walking or paralysis. If you bird is sick, contact your veterinarian. To report an unusual number of sick or dead birds, call the Sick Bird Hotline 866-922-BIRD (2473).



Be aware of the signs of bird flu in humans. If your flock is sick, monitor yourself for flulike symptoms and eye irritation.



Dispose of things from sick birds – do not eat the eggs or meat from sick birds or feed it to your other animals.



Do not eat raw poultry or eggs. Poultry and eggs should be cooked to an internal temperature of $165^{\circ}F$ before eating.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For free resources and to learn more about good biosecurity to protect your flock, visit: www.aphis.usda/gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health - H5 Bird Flu in Animals http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/HPAI.htm

California Department of Food and Agriculture – Avian Influenza https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal Health/Avian Influenza.html

Call the Public Health InfoLine at 833-540-0473

for questions or to find a nearby clinic or doctor.

Open every day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ph.lacounty.gov/acd/diseases/h5n1.htm

