

Backyard Poultry Owners

PROTECTION FROM BIRD FLU



Although the risk of influenza to the general public in Hawai'i from bird flu viruses is low, some situations may place individuals at increased risk for bird flu virus infection:

- Close contact with sick or dead animals, including wild birds, poultry, other domesticated birds, and other wild or domesticated animals.
- Handling the feces, bedding (litter), or materials that have been touched by, or close to, birds or other animals on a farm with confirmed bird flu virus infection.
- Consuming raw, unpasteurized, milk or dairy products

Healthy practices:

Do not feed wild birds or allow wild birds to commingle with domestic flock.



Wash your hands with soap and running water after touching backyard poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.



Don't put poultry near your face. Don't kiss backyard poultry or snuggle them and then touch your face or mouth.



Keep poultry and equipment outside. Don't eat or drink in areas where poultry live or roam. Separate owned poultry from wild birds. Cover feed and water dishes, keep a clean coop and stay outdoors when cleaning any equipment or materials used to raise or care for poultry. This includes cages or food and water containers.



Wear dedicated shoes. Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of poultry and keep those shoes outside of the house. Wash your hands with soap and water immediately after caring for poultry.



Handle eggs safely. Keep hands and coop clean. Collect eggs often and throw away cracked eggs. Bacteria on the shell can more easily enter the egg through a cracked shell.

In the event of a suspected or confirmed animal bird flu infection on a farm, the Hawai'i Department of Health recommends rapid implementation of CDC guidance to reduce the risk of human infections.

Commercial poultry and livestock farms can implement USDA and Hawai'i Department of Agriculture biosecurity guidance and regulations to reduce the risk of bird flu importation.

CDC GUIDANCE



USDA GUIDANCE

