

Avian Influenza (Avian Flu) Producer Information



February 2022

You are being given this information because avian influenza virus (“avian flu”) has been detected at or near your operation. Some avian influenza viruses can cause illness in people ranging from mild to severe. While human illness due to avian flu is rare, we want you to be aware of the possibility and give you instructions on how to protect your workers.

Prevention Measures

To reduce their risk of avian flu, poultry workers and responders should do **all** of the following:

- Wash hands with soap and water thoroughly and frequently. An alcohol-based hand rub may be used if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid unprotected direct physical contact with sick birds, poultry carcasses, and poultry feces or litter.
- Wear recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) when in direct contact with sick live birds, poultry carcasses, and poultry feces or litter.
- Shower at the end of the work shift and leave all contaminated clothing and equipment at work. Never wear contaminated clothing or equipment outside the work area.
- Get the seasonal flu vaccine.

Recommended PPE

- NIOSH-approved N95 respirator
- Safety goggles
- Disposable gloves
- Disposable fluid-resistant coveralls
- Disposable shoe covers
- Disposable head or hair covers

Additional options

- Heavy-duty rubber work gloves
- Rubber apron
- Rubber boots



N95 Respirators

Workplaces requiring N95 respirator use must have a respiratory protection program in accordance with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134).

Workers that will wear N95 respirators must be medically cleared, trained, and fit-tested for respirator use.

Information on respiratory protection programs, including fit testing procedures, can be accessed at www.osha.gov/etools/respiratory-protection.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All PPE should be used in accordance with OSHA regulations (29 CFR 1910 Subpart I: Personal Protective Equipment). Workers must receive training on and demonstrate an understanding of the proper use of PPE as well as its limitations.

- PPE should be donned (put on) and doffed (taken off) in separate clean areas.
- Avoid touching the eyes, mouth, and nose while wearing PPE.
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, or use the bathroom while wearing PPE.
- PPE should be removed in the following sequence:
 1. Remove and dispose of the apron, if worn
 2. Clean and disinfect boots
 3. Remove boots
 4. Remove and dispose of the coverall
 5. Remove and dispose of gloves
 6. Wash hands with soap and water
 7. Remove goggles and respirator
 8. Clean and disinfect reusable goggles and respirator
 9. Wash hands with soap and water again



Public Health Monitoring of Exposed Workers

The state or local health department may require that workers who have had contact with birds potentially infected with avian flu virus be monitored for 10 days after their last exposure. Please keep track of the workers who have been exposed and be ready to provide this information to the state or local health department upon request. If you receive a report that an exposed worker has developed flu-like illness, please immediately contact your state or local health department.

If a worker becomes ill after poultry exposure

Call 317-233-1325

For additional information on avian flu:
www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu



Avian Influenza (Avian Flu) Worker Tracking Sheet



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The state or local health department may require that workers who have had contact with birds infected with avian flu virus be monitored for 10 days after their last exposure. Please keep track of the workers who have potentially been exposed and be ready to provide this information to the state or local health department upon request. If you receive a report that an exposed worker has developed flu-like illness, please immediately contact your state or local health department.

Record contact information below for any workers who entered the poultry house, **starting two days prior to onset of illness in the birds.**

First name	Last name	Home address (including zip code)	Email address	Phone

If a worker becomes ill after poultry exposure

Call 317-233-1325

For additional information on avian flu:
www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu



Animal Health Emergency Mental Health Resources



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Animal health emergencies affecting food animal production operations can increase stress in farming communities. If you notice changes in your emotions, attitudes, or cognitive abilities, or if you notice that it has become more difficult for you to care for yourself, your family, or your animals, consider turning to a friend, clergy member, or medical provider immediately. **If the situation is potentially life-threatening, get immediate emergency assistance by dialing 9-1-1.**

If you are experiencing symptoms of depression, have suicidal thoughts, or simply need to talk to someone, please contact one of the following organizations:



Be Well Indiana is a free, confidential resource available 24/7 to anyone in the state of Indiana.

Feeling overwhelmed, stressed, anxious, or alone? Call this confidential service to get help.

**Dial 2-1-1 or
1-866-211-9966**

Concerned about someone you know?

- Actively listen.
- Show empathy.
- Be prepared for conflict.
- Recommend resources.

The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

**Dial 9-8-8 or
1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)**

[Online Lifeline Crisis Chat](#)



Farm Aid connects farmers with helpful services, resources and opportunities specific to their individual needs. You may contact Farm Aid's Farmer Services team by filling out the [Online Request for Assistance form](#).

You may also call the Farmer Hotline for immediate assistance. The hotline is answered Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Eastern time.

1-800-FARM-AID (1-800-327-6243)