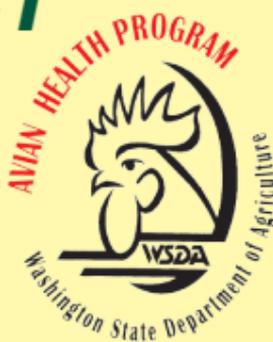


# PROTECT YOUR BIRDS... AND YOURSELF!



## 4 Bird Flu facts you should know:

1. Most Avian Influenza (AI or bird flu) viruses are not a threat to human health.
2. Highly Pathogenic AI (HPAI) has never been detected in Washington State.
3. Only humans who live in very close contact with ill birds have caught the Asian bird flu.
4. Normal cooking of bird meat to 165° F kills all AI viruses.

## Ways to protect your birds:

- **Provide barriers** between your birds and other animals (e.g., wild birds, rodents).
- Make sure those who have contact with your birds **wear clean clothes and boots** and wash their hands before handling your birds.
- Make sure you **clean and disinfect equipment** used with your birds after each use.
- **Isolate new birds** or birds that return from another place (i.e., fairs, shows) for 3 weeks prior to mixing them with your birds.
- Keep feed in a clean, dry, enclosed place. **Provide clean feed and water** sources daily.

**Avian Health Hotline  
(800) 606-3056**

## Know the types of flu that affect birds and humans

**Avian Influenza (AI or bird flu)** is a viral disease affecting birds (*not a disease of humans*), such as domestic poultry, migratory waterfowl, and shorebirds.

- Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) causes mild to no illness to domestic poultry and is not a threat to people. LPAI has the potential to change to HPAI.
- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) can quickly infect and kill large numbers of birds. Asian H5N1, a strain of HPAI, has made people ill who live in **very close contact** with birds.

**Seasonal Influenza (or common flu)** is a human respiratory illness (*not a bird illness*) easily spread from person-to-person. Most people are somewhat immune. You can get a vaccine each year to protect you against the current strains.

**Pandemic flu** happens when a new virus subtype emerges that has not previously circulated in humans. For this reason, avian H5N1 is a strain with pandemic possibilities since it might adapt into a subtype that is contagious among humans. Pandemic flu can cause more serious illness than seasonal flu. Currently, there is no pandemic flu anywhere in the world.

### Report sick birds—*Don't wait!*

Early detection can make a difference.

If your birds are sick or dying, call



WSDA Avian Health Program, toll-free **(800) 606-3056**.

If you notice sick or dead wild birds, please contact your local USDA Wildlife Services office at **1-866-4-USDA-WS**.