

# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

## Fact Sheet



Ohio Department  
of Agriculture



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) has been detected in a backyard flock in Franklin County, Ohio. HPAI is a contagious, infectious disease of all avian (bird, poultry) species. It can be transmitted from wild birds to domestic birds like chickens and turkeys and amongst commercial/backyard birds. It can also be transmitted via human fomites (inanimate objects) like boots, clothing, tires, and vehicles.

### What you can do to prevent HPAI from entering your flock:

- Bring all of your birds inside an enclosed structure and away from wild birds and waterfowl
- Practice good biosecurity including:
  - Have a designated set of footwear and clothing to wear around your birds
  - Wash your hands frequently while around poultry
  - Keep visitors to a minimum
- Watch your birds for signs of illness
- Isolate new arrivals to your flock

### Clinical Signs of HPAI:

- Lethargy
- Decreased appetite
- Decreased water consumption
- Respiratory signs including nasal discharge
- Purple discoloration of wattles and combs
- Swelling of head and eyelids
- Drop in egg production
- Sudden death

### What should you do if you have sick birds?

- Do NOT bring sick birds to ADDL. Please call ODA first.
- Call ODA at 614-728-6220 or after hours at 888-456-3405 OR USDA at 614-856-4735
- USDA/ODA will send out a field veterinarian or inspector to your premise to ask questions about your flock and to collect samples of your birds.

**Practice Enhanced Biosecurity! If you suspect HPAI in your flock, please call Animal Health: 614-728-6220**