

# Backyard Poultry Owners: Protect your flock from Avian Influenza



Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, also referred to as H5N1 or “bird flu”, is a virus that is widespread in wild birds worldwide. It is currently causing outbreaks nationally in poultry and dairy cows. Poultry and dairy cows are becoming infected after contact with sick wild birds or from contact with other sick animals or contaminated surfaces and materials.

## Protect your Flock!

- ▶ Keep wild and migratory birds out of your chicken houses and coups
- ▶ Clean and disinfect your clothes, shoes, equipment, and hands before and after each time your come in contact with your flock
- ▶ Avoid sharing tools, equipment, or supplies with other poultry owners

Immediately report sick birds, unexplained high number of deaths, sudden drop in egg production, or sudden reduction in feed or water intake to the State Veterinarian at 860-713-2505 or [ctstate.vet@ct.gov](mailto:ctstate.vet@ct.gov) or the USDA at 866-536-7593.

**The risk of bird flu to the general public is currently low. When people do get sick, it is most often through direct contact with infected poultry or cows. If you suspect your poultry is sick, scan the QR code to learn how to protect yourself:**



For more information on bird flu in poultry, scan scan the QR code:

