HPAI Information for Youth Groups

Currently, the Minnesota poultry industry is responding to several cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). People working with poultry should feel safe, as this disease has not been shown to transmit to humans. Because birds become infected by contact with infected fecal materials and/or nasal fluids, all people need to be mindful of the risk of transmission to other barns and farms.

Biosecurity of your flock and surrounding flocks is critical. Biosecurity involves several important steps including:

1. Eliminate opportunities for your poultry to come in contact with wild birds.
2. If you have birds at your home, think twice and plan ahead before visiting another farm with poultry.
3. Vehicle biosecurity is very important; follow strict cleaning and disinfection measures and don’t let your vehicle be a carrier.
4. Early detection is the key. Carefully monitor your poultry for early signs; decrease in feed or water consumption, increased death loss, or drop in egg production.

Additional information on biosecurity is available on the following web sites:
- Minnesota Board of Animal Health, AI information page
  [http://www.mnairesonse.info](http://www.mnairesonse.info)
- USDA Avian Biosecurity page

Please share this information with the youth you work with to help them understand the importance of biosecurity.

The following hotlines are available to the public to address the following topics related to avian influenza in Minnesota.

- For general questions about avian influenza and biosecurity: 888-702-9963
- To report sick or dead poultry MN: 320-214-6700 Ext 3804
- USDA APHIS Sick Bird Hotline: 866-536-7593
- To report sick or dead wild birds to DNR: 888-646-6367
- For movement permits into/within/from the control zones: 651-201-6817