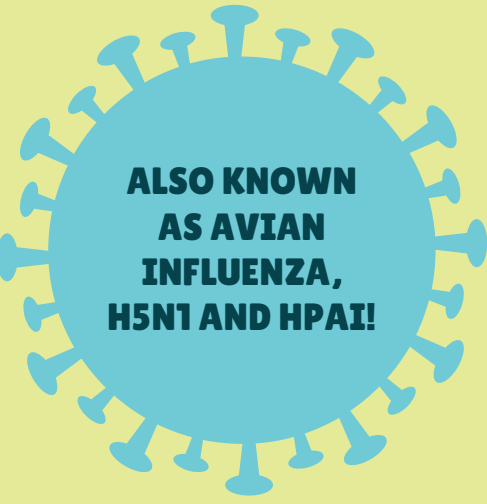


# BIRD FLU



**Bird flu is a viral infection that mainly affects birds but can occasionally infect humans and other animals. Bird flu causes symptoms ranging from mild to severe.**

## CURRENT SITUATION

**There is an outbreak of bird flu in the United States, making affected birds, milk-producing cows, and people sick.**

**The current risk to the public is low, but people with exposure to infected animals are at higher risk of infection.**

**For more information visit: [bit.ly/BirdFlu2024](https://bit.ly/BirdFlu2024).**



**Human infections with bird flu mainly occur after close or unprotected contact with infected animals.**



## PREVENT BIRD FLU

- **Avoid contact with wild birds. Birds like geese and ducks are common carriers of bird flu, and they can be infected even if they don't look sick.**
- **Instruct children not to touch wild birds or other animals, especially at places like petting zoos, farms, and fairs.**
  - **Anyone who touches an animal should wash their hands with soap and water immediately.**
- **Do NOT drink raw milk. Pasteurized milk is safe to drink and kills H5N1 viruses.**

## H5N1 FOR PEOPLE WHO RAISE CHICKENS



- **Prevent contact between your birds and wild fowl and change their water at least once a day.**
- **Use dedicated coveralls and shoes when taking care of your birds. Change out of them before entering your home.**
- **Avoid touching your face after contact with wild or domestic birds or objects that may be contaminated with their saliva, mucus or feces. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.**
- **Monitor your birds for signs of illness and immediately isolate any sick ones.**

**Report your sick birds to the Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services (717-772-2852, option 1) and sick or dead wild birds to the Pennsylvania Game Commission (833-PGC-Hunt) immediately.**

**You can also contact the state veterinarian or USDA (866-536-7593). The health department may also ask you to monitor your symptoms over the next 10 days.**

**CDC has additional resources for backyard flock owners: [bit.ly/AvianFluCDC](https://bit.ly/AvianFluCDC).**