



United States Department of Agriculture



**Do you own or  
work with poultry?**  
Let's keep our poultry  
healthy together.

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Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

# Use these basic tips to keep your birds healthy and prevent the spread of serious diseases like avian influenza and virulent Newcastle disease.

## 1. Always practice good biosecurity.

Review the 14 National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) Biosecurity Principles ([www.poultryimprovement.org/documents/StandardE-BiosecurityPrinciples.pdf](http://www.poultryimprovement.org/documents/StandardE-BiosecurityPrinciples.pdf)) and create a biosecurity plan for your premises.

## 2. Remember to wash your hands before and after coming into contact with poultry.

If you don't have soap and water, use hand sanitizer.

## 3. Protect yourself.

Don't kiss or snuggle with your birds.

## 4. Protect your poultry.

Put control programs in place for wild birds (including their feces and their feathers), rodents, and insects. Clean and disinfect any poultry equipment before and after use.

## 5. Monitor your flock's health.

Know the signs of disease and check your flock daily for any signs of illness. Quarantine sick birds right away.

## 6. Report sick birds!

Call USDA toll-free at **1.866.536.7593** to reach our veterinarians. USDA can test your birds free of charge to make sure they don't have a serious poultry disease.



For free resources and to learn more about good biosecurity, visit: [www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/defendtheflock)

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