

## Frequently Asked Questions: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) Prevention for Poultry Events

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health (Board) has identified poultry flocks in Minnesota infected with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) virus. To protect the birds at this event and other birds in the state, we are requesting everyone do their part to keep HPAI infected or exposed birds from attending your event.

### What are the signs of HPAI?

- Decreased water consumption
- Extreme depression
- Very quiet
- Difficulty breathing
- Decrease in feed or water intake
- Swelling or purple discoloration of head, eyelids, comb, wattle, and hocks
- Decrease in egg production
- A flock experiencing high death loss

### What should I do if I see a bird at the event with signs of HPAI?

1. Report the health concern to the official veterinarian and/or the event manager.
2. (Vet/Manager): Isolate the suspected sick bird(s) away from other birds and people and call the Board right away on the Minnesota Avian Influenza Hotline 833-454-0156. If it is after hours or on the weekend, call the Minnesota Duty Officer 800-422-0798.

### What kind of biosecurity can I implement at the event?

- Make sure all equipment is cleaned and disinfected between use with different exhibitors/sellers. Do not share cages.
- Wash your hands with soap and water and dry them well between different exhibitors/sellers. If a sink is not available, use hand sanitizer EVERY TIME!
- Do not reuse or share bedding or feed. Throw it away!

### What kind of precautions should event attendees take when going home?

- Keep any birds that were at the event well isolated from the rest of your birds once you get home. If possible, isolate at a different premises. If those birds become infected with HPAI, it may save your other birds from infection or death from the virus. Maintain that isolation for 2-3 weeks minimum.
- Shower, blow your nose and put on clean clothes and shoes before going in with your birds at home.
- Care for the isolated birds last to ensure you aren't potentially spreading anything from them to the birds that remained home.