Quick Tips

Keep Disease Out

Limit contact with outside birds, people, and equipment to prevent disease.

Keep it Clean

Clean and disinfect shoes, coops, tools, and hands to stop germs from spreading.

Keep Wild Birds + Pests Away

Control rodents and wild birds to reduce disease risks.

Watch for Illness

If sickness is found, separate sick birds from healthy birds.

Report Deaths

Report unusual deaths to your veterinarian or an animal health official in your state.

Report Deaths

Report unusual illness or deaths ***immediately*** to a veterinarian or state animal health official.

Resources

www.healthybirds.info

Facebook
Small Flocks Collaborative

Instagram
@smallflocks_healthybirds

BIOSECURITY FOR YOUR SMALL FLOCKS

HATCH A PLAN

Keep your birds safe from disease

Use these biosecurity tips and checklist to protect your birds

SMALL FLOCKS COLLABORATIVE

Keep Disease Out

- [ ] Buy birds from reputable sources that participate in disease-free programs.
- [ ] Separate new or returning birds for at least 10 days to monitor for signs of illness before mixing with your flock.
- [ ] Wear clean, dedicated flock clothes and shoes that haven't been around other birds.
- [ ] Don't borrow or share equipment with other flocks.
- [ ] Avoid mixing species (chickens, ducks, turkeys) to reduce disease spread.
- [ ] Limit visitors, especially those who own birds.

Limit visitors around your birds

Don't borrow or share equipment

Wear clean dedicated coop shoes and clothing

Keep Wild Birds + Pests Away

- [ ] Use netting, fencing, or covers to keep wild birds out.
- [ ] Store feed in rodent-proof containers and clean up spills.
- [ ] Control flies and other insects to reduce disease risks.
- [ ] Use traps and remove clutter like tall grass around coops to reduce rodents.

Watch for Illness

- [ ] Separate sick birds immediately to prevent spread.
- [ ] Watch for signs like fluffed-up, loss of appetite, or odd droppings.
- [ ] Contact your veterinarian or a poultry health expert about sick birds.

Separate new or sick birds from the flock

Keep it Clean

- [ ] Wash hands before and after handling birds.
- [ ] Clean and disinfect coops, feeders, and waterers regularly.
- [ ] Provide fresh food and water daily.
- [ ] Dispose of manure and bedding properly to reduce germs.
- [ ] Work with healthy birds first, sick birds last.

Handle healthy birds before sick birds

Regularly clean coops, feeders, and waterers

Wash hands before and after handling birds