

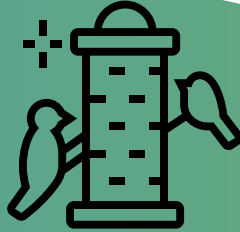


Public Health & Social Services



Protect Yourself: Bird Feeders & Avian Influenza

(Bird Flu, HPAI, H5N1 or H5N5)



Additional Resources WA Situation Report (WA DOH)



WHAT IS IT?

- A highly contagious strain of bird flu (avian influenza, H5N1, H5N5) is currently spreading among birds and dairy cows. Though rare, people can become infected through exposure to infected animals. To protect yourself, follow these precautions:

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A DEAD OR ILL BIRD:

- Wear proper PPE**
 - Gloves**
 - Mask**
 - Eye protection**
- If dead, double bag the bird and place in a trashcan outside with a secured lid
- Remove and clean the bird feeder
- If you find a sick or dead bird in your yard, remove bird feeders and baths for two weeks to reduce disease spread in the bird population.

Please consider reporting the incident to Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW): www.wdfw.wa.gov/get-involved/report-observations

BIRD FEEDER CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Clean your bird feeder and bird bath at least monthly. You may need to clean more often as bird poop and other dirt builds up on your feeder.
- Clean feeders outside, do not clean bird feeders in your kitchen or places where food is prepared or stored.
- Follow these steps to clean and disinfect your bird feeder:
 - Scrub feeder with warm soapy water to remove dirt. Rinse with clean water to remove soap. Soak in a diluted bleach solution (9 parts water and 1 part bleach) for at least 10 minutes.
 - Rinse with water to remove any remaining bleach solution, and let the feeder dry before refilling it.
 - Wash your hands with soap and water after touching your bird feeder.**

