

## **Bird Flu or Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1**

### **What is the current situation with Bird Flu?**

- "Bird flu" or Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1, is a disease primarily affecting wild birds but can affect domesticated poultry and dairy cows.
- It is widespread in wild birds worldwide and is causing outbreaks in poultry and U.S. dairy cows.
- No person-to-person spread of bird flu has been documented in the US.
- While the risk to humans is low, precautions are important, especially for those near poultry farms or with backyard chickens.
- In NJ, there have been recent detections in wild birds.

### **Who is at risk of Bird Flu?**

- Most human cases of bird flu involve occupational (work-related) and recreational (hobby-related) exposure to birds, poultry and/or dairy cows.

### **What should I do if I find sick or dead wild birds?**

- **Do not** touch or handle sick or dead wild birds. Residents should report it immediately to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Hotline at **1-877-WARNDEP (877-927-6337)**.

### **What should I do if I see unusual illness or deaths among my domestic birds or livestock?**

- Residents should report by: calling New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health at 609-671-6400, emailing [state.veterinarian@ag.nj.gov](mailto:state.veterinarian@ag.nj.gov), or by submitting an [online report](#).

### **Where can I get more information?**

- [New Jersey Department of Health](#)
- [New Jersey Department of Agriculture](#)
- [CDC: Information on Bird Flu](#)
- [United States Department of Agriculture](#)