

# Protecting Backyard Flocks

From Avian Influenza (Bird Flu)

## Know the Warning Signs!



Lack of energy and appetite



Decreased egg production or softened/misshapen eggs



Swelling of the head, eyelids, and comb



Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs



Stumbling, falling down, diarrhea



Sudden death

## Register your Flock!



**Backyard poultry MUST be registered with the Maryland Department of Agriculture.**

To register, scan the QR code or visit:  
[mda.maryland.gov/AvianFlu](http://mda.maryland.gov/AvianFlu)



More information:  
[AAHealth.org/bird-flu](http://AAHealth.org/bird-flu)

Adapted from Maryland Department of Agriculture

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## Follow These Steps!

-  Cover chicken coops and runs to prevent comingling with waterfowl.
-  Wear dedicated clothing and shoes that should never leave your farm.
-  Wash hands before and after working with birds.
-  Keep all birds in coop to prevent contamination with waterfowl droppings.
-  Remove birdhouses, feeders, and baths used by wild birds.
-  Change food and water daily.
-  After visiting places where poultry owners congregate, clean and disinfect your boots before caring for your own birds.
-  Clean and disinfect equipment in contact with birds or droppings, including cellphones.



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