

Ontario Poultry Industry Moving to Heightened Biosecurity Effective Immediately

March 26, 2022

Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) has been made aware of suspect positive cases of High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in two Ontario poultry flocks.

FBCC is **issuing a heightened biosecurity advisory to all poultry farmers, small flock growers and poultry industry personnel throughout the province, effective immediately.**

One suspect positive case is located in the Waterloo/Wellington area. [CLICK HERE](#) to access a 10km zone map.

A second suspect positive case is located in the Thamesford area. [CLICK HERE](#) to access a 10km zone map.

The following outlines biosecurity protocols that MUST be implemented (basic and heightened measures) on-farm:

- Keep poultry away from areas frequented by wild birds.
- Maintain strict control over access to poultry houses and your premises.
- Make sure equipment is cleaned and disinfected before taking it into poultry houses.
- Do not keep bird feeders or create duck ponds close to poultry barns.
- Maintain the highest sanitation standards.
- Change footwear when entering the Restricted Area and prevent wearing contaminated clothing and equipment in production areas.
- Control access to your farm site by communicating the situation to all essential visitors, including service providers, input suppliers and feed providers.
- Keep mortalities in secure, covered containers until they are moved to the disposal area or transported off-farm.
- Place waste entering the public collection system in a sealed, waterproof bag with the exterior disinfected.



- Place a hose and spray nozzle at entry point to Controlled Access Zone (CAZ); wash and disinfect vehicles at entry and at exit, paying special attention to wheels and wheel wells.
- If possible, keep all waste on-farm until the situation is resolved.
- **IMPORTANT:** Limit access to your farm to ESSENTIAL visitors only. Please note that each individual Feather Board (CFO, EFO, OBHECC, TFO) will be reaching out to their members regarding on-farm audits and inspections. Wherever possible, on-farm audits and inspections will be limited to essential visits only.

Required Heightened Biosecurity for Industry Service Personnel:

- Travel onto farms should be limited to essential services only.
- Roads that are contaminated with organic material should be avoided.
- Washing vehicles between farms is ideal. At a minimum, all deliveries or loading in or near a Biosecurity Advisory Area should be last on the route.
- Drive slowly when near barns to minimize dust.
- Avoid parking by exhaust fans and air inlets unless required.
- Avoid parking downwind from the barns, if possible.
- Trucks should have steps, wheel wells and tires cleaned and disinfected before leaving the premises or before proceeding with, any other delivery/loading.
- If not using disposable biosecurity apparel provided by the farmer, wear clean clothes and clean and disinfected boots at each farm.
- Use disinfectants such as Virkon, Accel, VIROCID®, Bisentry, Biosolve Plus, Biofoam, etc., abiding by contact time and concentrations as per the label.
- Be sure to clean any equipment used on-farm that could become contaminated.
- Sign the visitor log book.
- Keep your own records identifying where you have been and when.

FBCC is committed to providing timely communications to Ontario's poultry industry and will continue to keep you updated as the situation evolves.

In the meantime, should birds show any signs of illness, farmers are to call their veterinarian, immediately. It is also recommended that you contact the 24-hour Feather Board Command Centre (FBCC) support line, 1-877-SOS-BYRD.

