



Biosecurity Checklist for 4-H Youth

Protecting Your Flocks

- Keep unnecessary people off of your farm/residence and away from your chickens
 - Lock doors
 - Use fences and signs to keep people away
- Do not allow visitors in or near chicken coops
- All family members should have dedicated clothing (including shoes, boots, hat and gloves) separate from those worn off the farm/residence
- Never visit any other flocks
- After working with poultry, change clothes completely and wash hands and arms
- Hunters or others who come in contact with wild birds should change clothes (and shoes) and shower before working with domestic poultry (chickens, turkeys, etc.). This is especially important when coming into contact with waterfowl.
- Keep wild birds and pests out of the chicken coop
 - Have a good rodent and insect control program
 - Maintain vegetation and no debris around the chicken coop
 - Clean up feed spills
- Essential visitors must wear protective clothing, including boots and headgear, before being allowed near the birds
 - Keep some protective clothing on hand in case problems arise
 - Have a place to dispose of clothing when visitors leave
- Monitor who comes on the farm/residence. Have a sign in log
- Clean and disinfect all equipment before it is allowed on the farm/residence and again as it leaves
- Remove and properly dispose of dead birds
 - Poor disposal can lead to disease and increase the number of flies and scavengers
- Contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture State Veterinarian immediately if high mortality is experienced
 - Sick or dying birds should be sent to a state laboratory for diagnosis
 - Do not visit other farms/residence or places that 4-H with poultry frequent if experiencing high mortality
- Quarantine birds that go to fairs or shows for 2 to 3 weeks to make sure they do not bring disease back to your farm
 - Keep birds that come from fairs or shows as far away from the flock as long as possible and take care of them separately from your flock
 - Wash your shoes and hands after taking care of birds that come from fairs or shows and before visiting your other birds