



PROTECT YOUR BIRDS

If you keep poultry or captive birds, they are at risk from Avian Influenza (bird flu). There are a number of steps that you can take to reduce the risk of your birds being infected by this notifiable disease.

Good biosecurity practices such as an enhanced hygiene routine are central to this.

Use the following top tips to make sure you are doing all you can to protect your birds...



Tick all of the following practices that you are already doing and think about how to implement those you are not.

Housing

- ☐ You should house your birds in line with government guidance



- ☐ Ensure that wild birds, rats and mice cannot access the area where your birds live
- ☐ Check for any leaks in the roof to prevent water getting into the area where your birds live

Water sources

- ☐ Prevent your birds from sharing nearby ponds and waterways with wild birds. For example, by netting areas of standing water, such as ponds, preventing bird access



General

- ☐ Carry out effective rodent control
- ☐ Limit the amount of people who have access to your birds
- ☐ Speak to your vet if you are worried about the health or welfare of your birds



Cleanse and Disinfect

- ☐ Regularly cleanse and disinfect hard standing areas your birds can access
- ☐ Thoroughly cleanse and disinfect all equipment, such as feeders and drinkers regularly



Feed and Water

- ☐ Do not feed or water your birds in areas which can be accessed by wild birds
- ☐ Always clean up any feed spillages to discourage wild birds, rats or mice
- ☐ If you feed wild garden birds, make sure you do this in a separate area, as far away as possible from your captive birds



Clothing and Footwear

- ☐ Ensure that all clothing and footwear are washed thoroughly before you come into contact with your birds
- ☐ Use specific footwear when accessing the area where your birds live - do not access the area where your birds live wearing footwear you have worn elsewhere, e.g walking the dog as this can increase the risk of cross contamination



For more information visit - www.countrysideonline.co.uk/birdflu