Protecting Backyard Flocks From Avian Influenza

What is Avian Influenza (AI)?
- AI is a virus carried by migratory waterfowl (ducks and geese).
- Domestic poultry (chickens, turkeys, fowl) are susceptible and will become very sick.
- The virus is believed to originated in Eurasia and spread into Canada and the Atlantic Flyway through wild geese and ducks.
- Migratory bird flyways cross the United States. Delaware is in the Atlantic Flyway.

Knowledge the Warning Signs!
- Lack of energy and appetite
- Decreased egg production or softened/mishapen eggs
- Swelling of the head, eyelids, and comb
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs
- Stumbling, falling down, diarrhea
- Sudden death

How is the Disease Transmitted in Birds?
- Foot traffic
- Secretions from birds' mouths, nostrils, eyes, excrement
- Contact with infected droppings
- Movement of infected birds
- Contaminated clothing and equipment

If you have sick or dying birds in your backyard flock, contact:

For more information, visit: https://de.gov/poultry