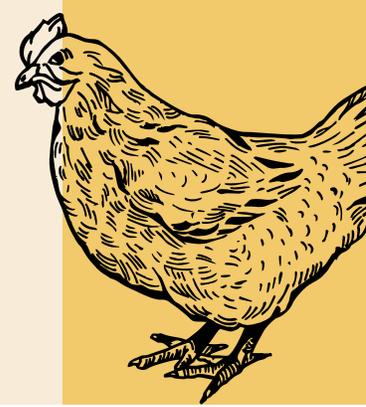


FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: Poultry & Waterfowl Exhibition Stop is Lifted



Why were poultry and waterfowl exhibitions stopped in Michigan?

To protect against the spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), poultry and waterfowl exhibitions in Michigan were stopped on May 10, 2022, until the state went 30 days without a new detection of HPAI in domestic poultry.

What types of poultry and waterfowl exhibitions were included as part of the stop?

The stop *included (but was not limited to)* shows, exhibitions, swap meets, petting zoos at fairs, and game bird/waterfowl fair displays. The stop *did NOT* include or affect egg hatching exhibits, pigeon races (if they met certain criteria), or permanent poultry exhibits at zoos.

Does the lifting of the stop mean the HPAI outbreak is over and preventative measures (like keeping birds inside coops) are no longer needed?

No. HPAI is still being detected in wild birds throughout the state, which means the virus is still present in the environment. Bird owners and caretakers need to remain vigilant and continue to take every preventative measure they can to protect their flocks.

If there is a new detection of HPAI found in Michigan's domestic birds, would the stop be reinstated?

If a new detection of HPAI is found within a domestic flock, the stop **may** be reinstated. MDARD will thoroughly analyze the details and circumstances of the new case to determine what actions are needed to best protect Michigan's domestic birds.

If there is a new detection of HPAI found in wild birds in Michigan, would the stop be reinstated?

No. It is widely known and understood HPAI

is present in the environment. If appropriate preventative measures are taken, Michigan's domestic birds can remain protected from the virus.

If a fair/poultry exhibition is in progress and a new stop is enacted, what would happen?

If a poultry exhibition is in progress, MDARD will thoroughly analyze the details and circumstances of the new case to determine what actions may be needed to best protect Michigan's domestic birds.

With the stop lifted, can individual fairs still stop bird exhibitions on their premises?

Yes. Individual fair boards can determine what type of shows are/are not allowed for their respective fairs.

How can backyard/hobby/show flocks best be protected from HPAI at home as well as at an exhibition?

At this time, HPAI is mainly being spread through wild birds. It is important to take every step possible to keep wild birds and their germs away from domestic flocks. More information on these preventative measures can be found at michigan.gov/birdflu and on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's [Defend the Flock](#) website.

Can people/kids get sick from avian influenza? What about our food?

According to the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the public health risk associated with these avian influenza detections remains low. No birds or bird products infected with HPAI will enter the commercial food chain. As a reminder, people are encouraged [to properly handle](#) and cook all poultry and eggs.