

PRESS RELEASE

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Avian Flu Detected in Kittitas County

Avian influenza, or bird flu, has been detected in Kittitas County. On October 27th, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) sent a press release stating “A Kittitas County flock owner reported the sudden death of multiple birds in their small domestic flock of mixed birds. The WSDA avian health team responded and test results came back positive for the virus.” A recent case has also been confirmed in neighboring King County via the WSDA website.

The [Washington State Department of Agriculture](#) is the lead agency for avian influenza response. There are numerous resources available about where avian influenza has been detected, how to protect your flock from getting avian influenza, what disinfectants work, and more:

- [Avian Influenza | Washington State Department of Agriculture](#)
- [Washington Bird Flu Updates 2022 | Facebook](#)
- [Defend The Flock | Facebook](#)

According to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH), although avian influenza is highly contagious among birds, the risk of it spreading to people is very low. “The local health jurisdiction’s role is to monitor any potential human exposure to a flock positive for HPAI,” states Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) Director Chelsey Loeffers. “We will continue to provide information to the public to stay up-to-date about avian influenza.”

Anyone with the following issues or concerns can contact the appropriate agencies:

- If you experience unexplained illness or death in your flock, call 1-800-606-3056 WSDA Avian Health Program.
- For food safety questions, call 1-360-902-1876 WSDA Food Safety Program.
- To report a sick, injured, or dead wild bird to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, visit [Report Wildlife Observations \(arcgis.com\)](#).

KCPHD wants to reiterate that the risk to humans currently is low. If you have questions or concerns, you are always welcome to contact KCPHD at 509-962-7515.

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