



# Information for Pet Bird Owners

Anything that touches your birds can carry harmful disease organisms. You are the only protection your birds have, so use these important tips to provide the best care and disease prevention.

## Bird Care Suggestions

- Different bird species will have different diets. Depending on the type, age, and size of birds, the ratio of seeds, pellets, and fresh fruits and vegetables will vary.
- Provide fresh water for your birds daily.
- Use paper towels or other paper products as bedding. Clean or replace bedding as needed.
- Keep your birds in a clean, dry, and isolated area. Good sanitary practices can help your birds fend off diseases and illness.
- Provide appropriate living space and perches for your birds.
- Birds are extremely sensitive to toxins. Don't use chemicals such as cleaners, hairspray, candles, and/or perfumes around your birds.
- Protect your birds from extreme hot and temperatures. Providing an 85°F environment is ideal!

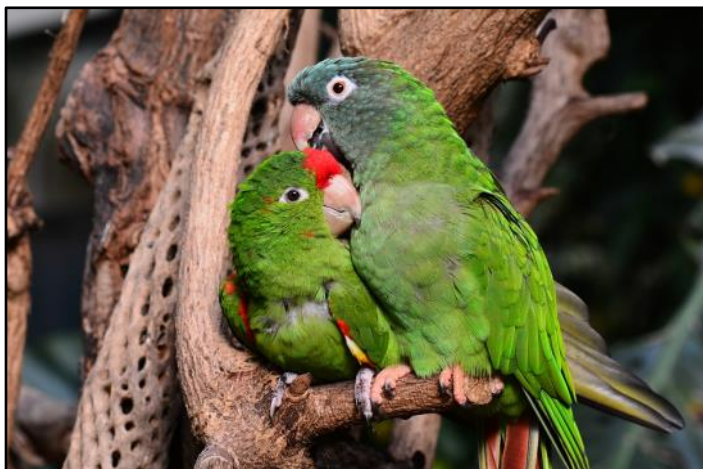


## Disease Prevention Guidelines

- Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water before and after handling birds. Considering also using hand sanitizer and disposable gloves, especially if birds are sick.
- Isolate any new birds or returning birds at least 30 days to monitor for disease.
- Clean and disinfect your cages and equipment after taking them to any bird event or having them around other birds. Limit contact with other bird or poultry owners.
- Keep your birds away from wild birds, rodents, insects, and other pets, as these can all carry disease.

To report an unusual number of sick or dead birds, call:

**Sick Bird Hotline**  
**(866) 922-2473**



**CDFA Animal Health Branch**  
Headquarters - (916) 900-5002  
Redding District - (530) 225-2140  
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350  
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500  
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462  
**USDA-APHIS-VS** (916) 854-3950 or (877) 741-3690

For more information, please visit:  
[www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal\\_health](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health)  
[Avian Health Program](#)