

Information for Bird Owners

Biosecurity Guidelines to Prevent Exotic Newcastle Disease

Birds and contaminated materials can spread Exotic Newcastle Disease (END) virus. Birds do not have to look sick to spread disease. Keep in mind that bird swap meets, flea markets, bird marts, bird shows, aviaries, feed stores, pet shops and neighbors with birds are all potential sites where exposure to bird diseases may occur. Biosecurity procedures do not guarantee that you will prevent this highly contagious virus from affecting your birds, but routine use of biosecurity will reduce the chances of accidentally bring disease to your birds.

FOLLOW THESE BASIC PRECAUTIONS

- Observe your birds daily for signs of disease.
- Call the **State Bird Hotline (866-922-2473)** if your birds become sick or die. Free diagnostic evaluation is available through the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System.
- Limit visitors to your premises and restrict them from contact with your birds.
- Avoid unnecessary contact with another's birds.
- Avoid sharing tools and equipment with neighbors and other bird owners.
- Clean and disinfect all items that may be contaminated. Remove dirt and debris from objects by brushing, scrubbing or pressure washing. Thoroughly clean items before applying disinfectants - cleaning first is essential for disinfectants to work effectively.
- Take these precautions after being at places where birds and bird owners congregate:
 - Clean and disinfect vehicles, cages and equipment before returning home
 - Remove and thoroughly clean your shoes paying particular attention to the soles.
 - Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and hot water
 - Put on fresh clothes and launder soiled clothes as soon as possible.

Call the State Bird Hotline 1-866-922-2473 to report sick or dead birds



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