



2025

425 E. Broad St.
Westfield, NJ 07090

Westfield Regional Health Department

GUIDELINES

for Safe Disposal of Dead Birds



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Properly disposing of dead birds helps prevent the spread of H5N1 bird flu to other birds, pets, and people. Follow these safety steps:

Steps



for disposing of dead birds safely



1

Avoid direct contact.

- Wear disposable gloves and a mask, and use a shovel or tongs to pick up the dead bird. Never use bare hands. Goggles will also reduce exposure.



2

Dispose properly.



- Place the bird in two plastic bags and tie securely. Place bag in a secure trash bin out of reach of pets and wildlife.

3

Clean up thoroughly.

- Remove gloves and wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer if soap is not available. Remove mask and goggles next. Wash clothes in hot water.
- Disinfect by mixing 1/2 cup household bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water (bleach/water 1:32 ratio).
 - Bleach must have a contact time of 10 minutes with all surfaces. Multiple applications may be needed to achieve contact time.
 - Rinse with warm water after 10-minute contact time.



Reporting Dead Birds



To report 5 or more dead birds in one area or any dead bald eagles or falcons, call the NJDEP's Hotline at 1-877-WARNDEP (877-927-6337).

For more information on H5N1 bird flu, visit: www.nj.gov/H5N1.