

**BIOSECURITY / SECURITY CHECKLIST**  
For the Poultry Farmer, Poultry Industry Facility Manager

***POULTRY INDUSTRY***

**Biosecurity and security are part of an all-hazards approach to Poultry Safety**

**BE PREPARED**

- Create a Biosecurity plan for your farm/facility, to be incorporated into your Emergency Plan.
  - For additional information on biosecurity, review the following websites:  
([www.animalagriculture.org/poultry/poultryintropage.asp](http://www.animalagriculture.org/poultry/poultryintropage.asp),  
[www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/poultry](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/poultry))
  - For assistance with these plans, contact the New Jersey Department of Agriculture – Division of Animal Health at 609-292-3965.
- Talk with your county Emergency Management Coordinator. Let him/her know about your farm's/facility's needs and concerns, in the event of a disaster or emergency. Learn about your county's disaster and emergency evacuation procedures, and incorporate the following into your plan:
  - Identify the hazards/risks associated with your area.
  - Depending on the size of your operation, develop plans on when, how and where to evacuate your birds, family and workers or how to provide care if relocation is not feasible.
    - For appropriately sized operations, develop an emergency disaster travel kit for your birds. ([www.NJHomelandSecurity.gov/animals](http://www.NJHomelandSecurity.gov/animals) *Plain Talk on Protecting Livestock/Pets* brochures for more information.)
  - Develop procedures to implement if there is a breach in security concerning your farm/facility.
- Develop a list of important phone numbers, with contact names, such as the following: (keep at an on-site and off-site location)
  - Police / Fire / EMS: 9-1-1
  - Farm's/Facility's Veterinarian
  - Local Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension Agent
  - Local Health Dept.
  - County Emergency Management Coordinator
  - NJ Dept. of Agriculture – Division of Animal Health, 24-hrs (609-292-3965)
  - NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services
  - Emergency Notification List/Phone Tree, including after hours numbers (e.g. owner, supervisors, workers, vendors, suppliers, etc.). Include a list of essential employees allowed access to the facility during emergencies.

# Keep the Garden State Safe

## BE ALERT

- ❑ Maintain awareness of the location of visitors.
  - Post signs to inform visitors of rules to follow while on the premises.
  - Monitor and document all visits and visitors to your farm/facility.
  - Avoid taking visitors to poultry areas, unless necessary and then appropriately supervised.
- ❑ Notify authorities of people taking unauthorized pictures or asking questions about operations, security, etc.
- ❑ Watch for and report signs of tampering with equipment, feed, water, buildings and utilities.
  - Have written procedures on steps to take if you suspect or find evidence of contamination or tampering with feed, equipment, etc.
- ❑ Watch for unusual signs that may indicate possible bioterrorism.
  - Unusually high number of sick birds, or unexpected deaths.
  - Abnormal or unusual signs not typically seen for a particular disease.
  - Disease occurrence outside of its normal expected season.
  - Illnesses/deaths occurring in a short timeframe.
  - Multiple species are sick/dead, e.g. poultry, barn cats, rodents, etc.
  - Both people and birds are ill.
- ❑ Talk with your Veterinarian or local Extension Agent about the symptoms and warning signs of various foreign animal and poultry diseases and pathogens.
  - Immediately report unusual signs of disease or unexpected deaths among your birds to your Veterinarian, local Extension Agent, State Veterinarian, or USDA.
- ❑ Maintain situational awareness of world events and on-going threats.
- ❑ Train employees to be alert, vigilant with their surroundings, and to notify you if they see suspicious activity.

## BE SECURE

- ❑ Establish Standard Operating Procedures for all areas of your operations.
- ❑ Limit access to farm/facility and secure entrances and sensitive areas, when not in use.
  - Limit access to farm/facility to one gated road.
    - Keep the gate locked when not in use.
  - Restrict access to the poultry and make a barrier area if possible.
    - Allow only people who take care of your poultry to come in contact with them.
  - Keep storage areas and feed bins locked.

# Keep the Garden State Safe

## BE SECURE (continued)

- ❑ Limit access to the water/electrical supply.
  - If feasible, secure them to prevent tampering.
- ❑ Plan alternate means for electrical power.
  - Assess the entire poultry operation for generator needs, including water and ventilator systems and fuel.
    - Inspect, calibrate, and test generators under load.
  - Contact your power and water companies to alert them to the critical nature of your operation regarding these utility needs during disasters.
    - Request assistance in placing your facility on the priority list for resumption of service.
- ❑ Implement a security policy and security measures for deliveries.
  - Purchase feed and all other supplies from known, reputable firms/individuals.
    - ❑ Inspect feed and supplies for tampering, contamination, and spoilage.
    - ❑ Do not accept damaged or questionable deliveries or items.
    - ❑ Plan for alternate feeding strategies.
  - Require deliveries to be transported in company-identified vehicles.
  - Restrict deliveries to scheduled appointments.
- ❑ Maintain accurate and up-to-date inventories, especially on hazardous and perishable materials. Investigate discrepancies immediately.
  - Keep invoices on file.
- ❑ Conduct pre-employment screening for all prospective employees.
- ❑ Keep vehicles and equipment locked and keys secured, when not in use.
- ❑ Maintain adequate lighting and security measures.
  - Report any repairs that need to be made and follow up to see that they are completed.
- ❑ Restrict access to computers and sensitive documents.
- ❑ Protect computer data with virus protection.
- ❑ Shred sensitive documents before discarding.
- ❑ Train employees in security procedures, notifying you if they detect a breach in security.

# Keep the Garden State Safe

## BE CLEAN

- ❑ Keep chemicals and hazardous materials separate from consumable products.
  - Secure and restrict these areas.
- ❑ Limit access to sensitive areas and require visitors to follow posted rules.
  - Avoid unnecessary traffic to highly susceptible poultry areas and storage areas.
- ❑ Follow sanitary practices to eliminate the spread of disease. This applies to people, as well as equipment.
  - Utilize clean outer garments/coveralls and washable footwear when entering farm facilities or moving between poultry facilities.
    - Place “dirty” outer garments in a plastic bag, clean and disinfect footwear after work is completed.
  - Provide hand-washing facilities.
    - Encourage thorough hand washing with disinfectant soap before and after handling the birds.
  - Provide appropriate personal protection equipment, depending on the work areas.
  - Park vehicles away from poultry areas, preferably on concrete.
  - Avoid the transfer of dirt, mud or manure by vehicles, tools and equipment.
    - Do not use manure-handling equipment/tools to handle or move feed.
    - Thoroughly clean and disinfect equipment, vehicles (including tires and undercarriage), tools, cages, etc.
- ❑ Minimize the birds’ direct exposure to wildlife, insects, rodents, wild or migratory birds, and other animal species, which could be the potential source of disease transmission.
  - Keep poultry away from any source of water that may have been contaminated by wild birds.
- ❑ Prevent diseases.
  - Isolate all new birds and keep separate from the rest of the flock and other on-farm birds, for at least 21 days.
  - Depending on the size of your operation, keep an “all—in, all-out” philosophy of flock management.
  - Birds that have been to a fair or exhibition should be separated from the rest of the flock for at least 21 days after the event.
  - Observe all birds at least once daily for signs of disease, including sneezing/coughing, gasping for air, nasal discharge, lack of appetite, decreased egg production, swelling/purple discoloration of the wattles, combs and legs, or sudden death.
  - Call your veterinarian immediately if signs of unusual illness/sudden death are noticed.
    - Have these birds tested to rule out serious poultry diseases.
  - Handle/feed susceptible birds first.
- ❑ Train employees on common disease signs and patterns, so they will recognize unusual illness in the poultry and immediately alert you.

# Keep the Garden State Safe

## BE CURRENT

- Train employees on the biosecurity/emergency plans and the proper response. Practice emergency drills with the entire facility.
- Review and update your biosecurity plan.
  - After each drill, if necessary.
  - Every year.

## NOTIFY/CALL

- If suspicious activity is suspected, notify the facility owner and call local law enforcement and 1-866-4-SAFE-NJ.
- If unusual signs of disease, illness or deaths are observed at your farm/facility, notify your Veterinarian/local Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension Agent, the NJ Dept. of Agriculture's Division of Animal Health (609-292-3965).
- Train employees to notify you if there are concerns/problems.
  - If tampering/contamination/illness are suspected, isolate the suspected feed and/or animals.
  - Monitor animals and facilities until authorities arrive.
- Train your employees to Be Alert, Be Secure, Be Clean and Notify/Call.