

CARLYLE, IL – The Clinton County Health Department wishes to reassure residents following the confirmation of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), commonly known as bird flu, at a large commercial poultry farm in Clinton County.

The affected poultry flock has been depopulated to help prevent further spread of the virus. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and other appropriate agencies are monitoring the situation, and individuals exposed to affected birds are being monitored for 10 days as a precaution.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the risk of avian influenza to the general public remains low. Human infections are uncommon and are most often associated with direct contact with infected birds or contaminated environments.

"We understand that an outbreak of this magnitude may cause concern among Clinton County residents. However, we want to reassure the public that the risk to the general community remains low and appropriate precautions are being taken," said Sean Eifert, Public Health Administrator of the Clinton County Health Department.

Residents are encouraged to avoid contact with sick or dead birds, keep pets away from potentially infected birds, and report unusual illness or deaths among domestic poultry to the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Individuals who have had direct exposure to infected birds and develop symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, or eye redness should contact their healthcare provider or local health department.

The Clinton County Health Department will continue working with state public health officials and provide additional information as warranted.

For additional information, visit www.cdc.gov/bird-flu.

Clinton County Health Department
Carlyle, Illinois