



Infection Control Plan for Poultry Businesses

Name of business or facility: _____

Purpose of an infection control plan:

A good infection control plan is an important tool to prevent the spread of infections from poultry to people (zoonotic infections) and between birds. The King County Board of Health (BOH) requires infection control plans for live poultry businesses. The Public Health inspector will review your plan at your annual inspection.

See the BOH Code, Title 8 Zoonotic Disease Prevention at: www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/board-of-health/code.

How to use your infection control plan:

- Use the plan to train employees and guide daily operations
- Post the plan in a place where it is easily visible to staff
- Provide all necessary supplies and equipment
- Update the plan as needed
- Review the plan with employees at the time of hire and every year before chicks and ducklings arrive



IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR DISEASE PREVENTION

Public Health Pet Business Program:

- Pet Business Program: petbusinesses@kingcounty.gov, www.kingcounty.gov/petbusiness
- Zoonotic Disease Program: www.kingcounty.gov/zoonotic
- Contact Public Health at petbusinesses@kingcounty.gov with questions about infection control, concerns about diseases or dead birds, and to request signage, posters, or brochures.

WA State Dept. of Agriculture (WSDA):

- Avian Health Program at 1-800-606-3056 and
 - [Avian Health | Washington State Department of Agriculture](http://www.wa.gov/AvianHealth)
- Contact WSDA with questions about diseases and bird deaths



HAND HYGIENE

Hand hygiene is the single most important step in preventing the spread of germs.

When to clean your hands:

- Before and after handling birds
- After completing cleaning tasks
- After removing gloves
- Before and after eating, drinking, smoking or breaks
- After using the bathroom
- Right before leaving work

How to wash your hands:

- Remove jewelry
- Wash hands and pay attention to fingertips, between fingers, backs of the hands, and base of the thumbs
- Wash for 20 seconds- sing "Happy Birthday" twice

How to use hand sanitizer:

- Apply to visibly clean hands (wash dirty hands first)
- Apply squirt of sanitizer to palm and spread over all surfaces and rub for 20 seconds
- Use a sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

Businesses that allow customers to handle poultry must provide hand washing facilities, disinfectant hand wipes, or hand sanitizer.



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)
PPE prevents bird germs from infecting you and others.

Wear gloves when:

- Cleaning bird cages, dirty surfaces, and soiled equipment
- Handling ill or dead birds

How to wear gloves:

- Use disposable gloves; throw away after use
- Wash hands after removing gloves
- Change gloves and wash hands immediately after handling ill or dead birds
- Avoid touching surfaces and items that will be touched by people with bare hands

Wear smocks/coveralls when:

- Cleaning cages and contact surfaces
- Handling ill or dead birds
- Working with birds for a prolonged time period

How to use smocks/coveralls:

- Put on a clean smock or coverall each day
- Remove smocks/coveralls before going home or running an errand
- Keep used work clothes in bag separate from other clothes and wash daily in washing machine

Wear surgical or dust masks when:

- Cleaning activities create dust or stir up bird dander



CLEANING AND DISINFECTION
Disinfectants must be used on a clean surface to be effective.

Basic cleaning steps between batches of birds:

- Remove shavings or bedding
- Use soap or detergent with hot water and a scrub brush or a clean rag for cleaning
- Rinse surfaces with clean water and dry
- Use a disinfectant like a bleach solution to kill germs
- Allow disinfectant to air dry
- Never use a vacuum cleaner

Preparing cleaning and disinfectant solutions:

- Label spray bottles and mop buckets with product name and dilution ratio
- Prepare & store solution according to directions
- Make fresh solutions as directed, more often if solution becomes dirty
- Make bleach solutions daily using cold water

Preparing bleach (8.25%) solutions - examples

Preparing a bleach solution for a 24 oz. spray bottle:

- Add 1 Tbs. of bleach to 24 oz of cold water
- Label spray bottle **Bleach** and **1:51** dilution ratio

Preparing a bleach solution for a 2 gallon mop bucket:

- Add 5 oz. bleach to 2 gallons of cold water
- Label bucket **Bleach** and **1:51** dilution ratio

Cleaning cages and containers with birds:

- Spot clean the inside of cages and containers by removing droppings & debris, then wipe surfaces with a clean rag or paper towel dipped in water
- It is **very important** to clean & disinfect outside surfaces of cages that customers can touch

Surfaces and items to clean and disinfect daily:

- Cages or containers in-between batches of birds
- Spot clean cages and containers with birds
- Exterior cage surfaces that customers touch
- Floors and walls around bird area
- Sinks, bathrooms, food prep area, and kitchen
- Food and water dispensers (often need attention more than once a day)

Businesses are required to display signage with information on the risk to humans of Salmonella infection from birds. Contact Public Health for signs.



CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

List all products used for cleaning and disinfection at your facility.

Keeping your facility clean and disinfected will make it a healthier place for your animals, your staff, and your customers. You must use **both detergent and disinfectant products**. Effective sanitation requires thorough cleaning and washing prior to application of a disinfectant. Detergents alone do not kill germs. Although some disinfectants also act as detergents, many (such as bleach) do not. The effectiveness of many disinfectants is reduced by organic material such as feces, urine, litter, saliva, and dirt, so surfaces must be cleaned before disinfecting.

How to prepare your cleaning and disinfectant products:

- Prepare and store solutions according to label directions
- Label spray bottles and mop buckets with the product name and dilution ratio
- Make up fresh solutions as often as directed by the label, or more frequently if solution becomes visibly dirty
- Bleach solutions should be prepared daily using cold water and never mixed with any other product
- Keep a Materials & Safety Data Sheet (MSDS or SDS) for each chemical you use

PRODUCT NAME: _____ USED FOR: _____ DILUTION RATIO: _____:

How to mix it:

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PRODUCT NAME: _____ USED FOR: _____ DILUTION RATIO: _____:

How to mix it:

BIRD HEALTH

Have a designated veterinarian who can be contacted about sick or injured animals.

- Get birds from a reputable source
- Keep birds in the same cage while at your facility; avoid mixing birds from different sources or of different ages
- Immediately separate sick, injured, and dead birds
- Dispose of dead birds in the garbage (in plastic bags)
- Contact a veterinarian or the WSDA if several birds die
- Keep sick or injured birds in an isolation area away from the public
- Keep sick birds warm and dry. Ensure the birds have access to food and water
- Employees handling sick animals or working in the isolation area must wear isolation PPE
- PPE used in the isolation area should not be used in other areas of the facility or with animals not in isolation
- If working with sick birds, wear a surgical face mask or well-fitting dust mask

- Isolation areas should be cleaned/disinfected last after other kennels/runs and cages have been cleaned

RODENT AND VECTOR CONTROL

Rodents and flies can spread germs and contaminate food and water.

- Rodents can spread disease, damage structures, contaminate bird food, and injure or kill birds
- Store bird food in pest proof containers with tight fitting lids
- Repair all holes in walls and floors and seal around drains and vents
- Eliminate clutter and maintain storage areas in a neat and sanitary manner
- Maintain tight-fitting screens on any windows that open
- Store garbage in pest proof containers with tight fitting lids
- See information about rodent control at www.kingcounty.gov/rats
- Call your local pest control company, if needed