

We recommend that the public follow the guidelines from the Texas Parks and Wildlife and USDA for HPAI. These include:

- 1. Avoid handling sick or dead birds: If you encounter wildlife showing symptoms of HPAI or find dead birds, do not touch them. Report sightings to TPWD or your local wildlife biologist.**

DO NOT HANDLE DEAD ANIMALS UNLESS INSTRUCTED BY AUTHORITIES.

If handling is necessary, please note these [precautions](#) and:

- Wear an N95 mask, disposable gloves and eye protection.
- Double-bag the animals before disposal in the trash.
- Disinfect hands, shoes, clothing and tools if contaminated.

Symptoms of HPAI include: Lack of coordination (stumbling, falling down), head tilt, tremors, odd head movements, gasping for air, coughing, sneezing, red-tinged discharge, swollen eyes, conjunctivitis

- 2. Keep pets away: Prevent pets from consuming wild bird carcasses, which could expose them to the virus.**
- 3. Take extra care in practicing good hygiene: Wash hands thoroughly after any unavoidable contact with wild animals or outdoor environments frequented by birds.**
- 4. Disinfect bird feeders and baths weekly or remove bird feeders and bird baths entirely: This limits congregation points where the virus can easily spread.**
- 5. We are not currently accepting dead birds for intake.**