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TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

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BOARD OF HEALTH

March 7th, 2022

Re: **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)**

Dear Farm Animal Owner/Farm Operator,

HPAI has been detected in either wild water birds, domestic birds, or both, along the east coast from Canada to Florida. Affected states include **MA**, CT, ME, NH, NY, and others. HPAI has also been found in KY, IN, and MI. HPAI surveillance of domestic and wild birds in MA is ongoing.

HPAI is a serious disease and requires rapid response because it is highly contagious and often fatal to chickens. APHIS works with its federal, state, local and industry partners to quickly mobilize a response to any HPAI findings. The goal is to quickly contain and eradicate the disease, protecting our poultry industry, and in turn, the American consumer.

Protect your flock with excellent biosecurity. Your veterinarian can assist you in developing additional biosecurity protocols for your operation.

Other excellent biosecurity resources include:

- [www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-informatio....](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-informatio...)
- [Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza \(HPAI\) - What to Expect](#)

You may also contact **Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR)** for assistance with any questions you may have. The office number is 617-626-1795.

MDAR's mission is to ensure the long-term viability of agriculture in Massachusetts. Through its four divisions – Agricultural Conservation & Technical Assistance, Agricultural Markets, Animal Health, and Crop and Pest Services – MDAR strives to support, regulate and enhance the rich diversity of the Commonwealth's agricultural community to promote economically and environmentally sound food safety and animal health measures, and fulfill agriculture's role in energy conservation and production. For more information, visit MDAR's website at www.mass.gov/agr.

Report sick or dead birds:

Domestic Birds: 617-626-1795
Wild Birds: 508-389-6300.

Sincerely,

Ned Saviski
Health Inspector