

Biosecurity for First Responders



Stearns County
Minnesota

What is Biosecurity?

Measures needed to be taken to keep a disease from traveling from farm to farm.

First Responders should keep these measures in mind when responding to a farm with poultry, particularly if you are in a building or walk through poultry litter. Viruses and bacteria can carry on shoes, clothes, and equipment.



Emergency response is a priority, if you respond without biosecurity measures, then cleanup is most important.

ARRIVAL-Keep hands, boots, and rigs clean, use new boot covers at each farm site. Try not to drive or walk-in or around with the poultry or their manure, bedding, litter, or pasture.

PREVENT-Vehicles are a great vehicle for transmission. If you see loose birds (chickens, geese, turkeys, etc.) try and park away from the birds. Keep your windows up to prevent flies from entering your clean area. Gather your garbage bags, hand sanitizer, and wipes before your visit.

CLEAN-UP-Remove contaminated surfaces (disposable gloves, boot covers, etc.) and place them in a garbage bag, tie the bag off and leave the secured bag on-site or in a secured dumpster. If available, spray a disinfectant, such as Virkon S, onto the tires and undercarriage of the vehicle before leaving the site. Clean hands/ wrists with hand sanitizer. The vehicle needs to be washed (car wash or power washer) after the site visit. Washing the underside of the vehicle and tires is essential.

SUGGESTED MEASURES:

- The inside of your vehicle is designated as a clean area. Use your trunk and garbage bags to store dirty items.
- Please adhere to producer biosecurity measures when responding to a call.



Biosecurity is important to Minnesota Poultry Producers and yourself. Disease in commercial U.S. flocks impacts trade with other countries and has an economic impact on local producers and food prices.

If you have poultry at home you can bring back the disease, if not careful. Not all poultry will show signs of a disease, so prevention is the best measure.