

Starting a Backyard Flock or Restocking Birds?

Protect your health and the health of your birds

Did you know? Germs go both ways!

- ▶ Not only can your birds give you germs, but you can introduce germs into your backyard flock.
- ▶ Germs can travel on your footwear, clothing and tools. And if you are sick, you can even give your germs to your birds. **Germs that go both ways can make you or your birds sick!**

Wash your hands after you touch chicks!

- ▶ Contact with live chicks can be a source of germs that can make you sick, even when chicks appear healthy and clean.
- ▶ For children under 5, elderly people and people with weakened immune systems, it's best to avoid handling and touching chicks.

Your flock health routine helps keep you and your birds healthy!

A flock health routine is a simple, regular set of care practices that keep backyard birds healthy, clean and well-monitored.

If you don't have a flock health routine, talk with your veterinarian and visit the Iowa HHS webpage for tips and tricks!



Learn more about what to include in your flock health routine to protect your backyard birds and family.

hhs.iowa.gov/backyard-poultry-safety