Avian Flu in Pennsylvania: What to Know

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By Senator Scavello

PEN ARGYL - The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture confirmed the state's first positive cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in domestic poultry in several Lancaster County farms.

As of April 26, there have been five affected commercial flocks, zero affected backyard flocks, and a total of 3.8 million birds affected in Lancaster County. The most up-to-date status of confirmed Pennsylvania cases can be

viewed on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's website.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, these avian influenza detections do not present an immediate public health concern. No human cases of avian influenza viruses have been detected in the United States. Poultry products and eggs are safe to consume if stored and cooked at proper temperatures.

Both commercial poultry farms and Pennsylvanians with backyard chickens should be on high alert to protect their flocks from this highly contagious and fatal disease. Domestic poultry, including chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowl, quail, pheasants, emus and ostriches, are most susceptible to avian influenza.

If you have domestic birds, report sick domestic birds or unusual deaths in your flock to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture at 717-772-2852 option 1. The line is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Information about the current state of HPAI in Pennsylvania can be found at the HPAI Address Search Application.

Celebrate Small Businesses

By Rep. Joe Emrick

BANGOR - The week of May 1 is National Small Business Week and Pennsylvania Small Business Week. This year's theme, Building a Better America through Entrepreneurship, celebrates the resiliency and tenacity of America's entrepreneurs.

Small businesses are our economic engine. Pennsylvania is home to 1.1 million small businesses that employ 2.5 million workers.

Small business owners have displayed incredible perseverance in the face of challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic, staffing shortages and supply chain disruptions. Their success is a testament to their ability to adapt and overcome.

I hope you will join me in thanking and patronizing our small businesses.





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