

# AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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**September 7, 2022**

## ***Avian Influenza & Outbreak Update*** ***Most recent news . . .***

On August 22, 2022, Avian Influenza was detected in chickens at several locations in California. Specifically, positive cases have been detected in Sacramento, Butte, Contra Costa and Fresno Counties.

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health issued a statement noting that on August 30, a non-commercial poultry flock (in Elkhart County).

Minnesota Department of Food and Agriculture has recently confirmed cases of Avian Influenza in Hennepin County.

Cases have also been detected in Ashland and Defiance Counties in Ohio.

The North Dakota Animal Health division has reported positives in Cass County.

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture confirmed Avian Influenza in Washington County.

A variety of wild birds (mallards, geese, etc.) have tested positive in Utah, Nevada, Florida and Oregon as well.

The USDA is recommending flocks be brought in when possible to protect them from wild birds. Alternatively, secure your lofts to prevent wild birds from gaining access to your birds.

## ***AU Bio-Security Recommendations***

Basic bio-security measures should always be used. It is more important than ever to make sure you are cleaning your loft regularly, washing hands going in and out of the loft, monitoring or perhaps restricting others from going in and out of your loft and placing new birds in a quarantine section before integrating them with your other birds.

AU Bio-Security Recommendations are found at:

<http://www.pigeon.org/loftcertificationpolicy.htm>

## ***Other Ways You Can Help***

The AU also developed the Loft Certification Program many years ago. We have encouraged members to participate in this self-regulating program to illustrate optimum care is provided the birds. It is achieved through a point system and is based on practicing basic bio-security. The [AU Loft Certification Program](#) doesn't cost anything. For more information, please feel free to call the national office (800-755-2778).