

# AMERICAN RACING PIGEON UNION, INC.

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## ***Virulent Newcastle Disease Outbreak***

The California State Veterinarian has expanded the quarantine area in Southern California to restrict movement of birds in order to eradicate virulent Newcastle disease. Poultry owners are prohibited from moving birds in all of Los Angeles County and in large parts of Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

The quarantine now extends from northern and southern borders of western Riverside County and as far east as Yucca Valley in San Bernardino County. To see specific boundaries, please go to

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/Newcastle\\_Disease\\_Info.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html)

Additionally, mandatory euthanasia has been imposed in some areas in Riverside, Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties. Specific locations are also listed at the link above.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture is recommending that gatherings where birds (including but not limited to poultry) are brought together for shows, auctions, swap meets, pet marts, fair exhibits, pigeon races, and petting zoos be suspended.

We encourage members to adhere to the recommendations to avoid potentially spreading the virus or putting your birds in jeopardy.

The links below provide additional information.

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/pdfs/V\\_N\\_D\\_SB\\_Riverside\\_Area\\_Quarantine.pdf](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/V_N_D_SB_Riverside_Area_Quarantine.pdf)

[https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/Newcastle\\_Disease\\_Info.html](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/Newcastle_Disease_Info.html)

It is important that members not allow comingling of pigeons and poultry. We also encourage members to follow recommended bio-security measures.

The AU is in contact with USDA officials and will continue to monitor the situation and advocate for pigeon fanciers.

### ***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>