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Today the Tennessee State Veterinarian is announcing the **release of the control zones surrounding four Weakley County poultry farms** affected by highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in December 2022. A fifth control zone in Weakley County remains in effect.

Once HPAI was detected, the infected flocks were depopulated and extensive cleaning and disinfecting protocols were initiated for each site. Animal health officials established a control zone in the 10-kilometer radius of the affected facilities and movement of domestic birds into and out of that zone required testing and permitting. Since then, animal health technicians have performed repeated testing to ensure that HPAI has not spread to other poultry flocks nearby. No additional samples tested positive for avian influenza and testing is now complete.

Poultry owners across Tennessee should continue to monitor their flocks and immediately report any spike in illness or death.

The State Veterinarian offers the following tips:

- **Report a sudden increase in the number of sick birds or bird deaths to the State Veterinarian's office at 615-837-5120 and/or USDA at 1-866-536-7593.**
- Prevent contact with wild birds.
- Regularly disinfect all equipment used in coops or poultry houses and vehicles used for transporting birds.
- Practice good biosecurity [healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov/](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/healthybirds).
- Enroll in the National Poultry Improvement Plan www.poultryimprovement.org.

The State Veterinarian and staff are your partners in animal health and disease prevention. Over the past three years, the Kord Animal Health Diagnostic Laboratory tested on average more than 141,500 poultry samples for disease each year.

Please email Animal.Health@tn.gov if you have questions or need guidance. For avian influenza information, resources, and additional biosecurity measures, visit www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/animals/animal-health/avian-influenza.html.

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