

## November 2018 Webinar Question & Answers

During the ““Let’s Keep Our Poultry Together Defend Your Flock with Biosecurity Resources”” webinar on November 28, 2018, USDA received the following questions through the chat function and social media. Responses to these questions are shared below.

### Question 1:

If possible, please comment on how indoor, pet caged birds (non-poultry) should be handled during virulent Newcastle Disease mitigation (which is currently underway in California).

### Answer 1:

Best management practices for indoor birds should resemble those for commercial birds. Please see helpful information on the APHIS webpage regarding the vND outbreak and how to protect your indoor caged pet birds:

[https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/fs-vnd.pdf](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/fs-vnd.pdf)

### Question 2:

How have outbreaks of salmonella started in backyard flocks?

### Answer 2 (provided by CDC):

Before arriving at a feed store for purchase by consumers, live poultry originating at hatcheries in the United States might have *Salmonella* germs in their droppings and on their bodies (feathers, feet, and beaks), even when they appear healthy and clean. The germs can get on cages, coops, feed and water dishes, hay, plants, and soil in the area where the birds live and roam. People become infected with *Salmonella* germs when they put their hands in or around their mouth after touching these items without washing their hands. Germs on your hands can spread easily to other people or surfaces. People who have contact with items, like coops or water dishes, in the area where poultry live can get sick without actually touching one of the birds.

### Question 3:

In the past, Biosecurity for the Birds produced beautiful, informational calendars. Are they available?

### Answer 3:

The 2018 calendar was our last one. With the launch of the new Defend the Flock campaign, we are providing new resources. A series of biosecurity checklists is available on our website for download. Printed copies will be available in 2019. We hope you find these checklists informational and useful for protecting flocks from avian diseases.