

BACK YARD FLOCKS

Raising chickens in urban areas is an increasingly popular hobby, offering fresh eggs without paying grocery store prices. Since 2017, CDC has stepped up educating people about the dangers of backyard flocks.

Just coming into contact with live poultry or their environment can expose people to Salmonella infections. Birds carrying the bacteria can appear healthy and clean with no signs of illness.

If one keeps a backyard flock, follow these tips to stay healthy:

- Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in their environment.
- Don't let children younger than five years handle or touch live poultry without adult supervision.
- Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of your birds and keep those outside of your home.
- Do not let live poultry come into or live inside the house, in bathrooms, or especially in areas where food or drink is prepared, served, or stored, such as kitchens or outdoor patios.

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