


## Animal Welfare

### During Animal Health Emergencies

*Poultry*



## Animal Welfare

- Ethical responsibility
- Ensuring animal well being
  - Physical and mental
- Consideration of
  - Health
  - Behavior
  - Biological function
- Continuously evaluate



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## The Five Freedoms

- Define ideal states of welfare
- Framework for analysis of welfare
  - Freedom from hunger and thirst
  - Freedom from discomfort
  - Freedom from pain, injury, and disease
  - Freedom to express normal behavior
  - Freedom from fear and distress

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## Freedom from Hunger and Thirst

- Daily requirements vary with species and age
- Monitor feed/water intake

	Water (per 100 birds per day)	Feed (per 100 birds per day)
Layer Chickens	5 gallons	17 pounds
Broiler Chickens	5 gallons	10 pounds
Turkeys	12 gallons	40 pounds

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## Freedom from Discomfort

- Appropriately sized confinement space
  - Indoor housing
  - Protection from elements
  - Ventilation
  - Temperature
- Clean litter
  - Wood shavings, paper by-products, hulls, ground corncobs, chopped straw
- Avoid overcrowding
- Waste Management



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## Freedom from Pain, Injury, Disease

- Examine upon entry/exit
  - Illness
  - Injury
  - Nutritional well-being
- Treat appropriately
  - Medical, surgical
  - Euthanasia
- Monitor
- May have delay in showing signs

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### Freedom to Express Normal Behavior

- Flock animals
  - Hierarchy
- Natural behavior
  - Preening, dust bathing
  - Foraging
  - Nesting, perching
- Separate birds by
  - Farm of origin
  - Pre-established groups




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### Freedom from Fear and Distress

- Humane handling
  - Experienced handlers
- Humane euthanasia
- Avoid startling or sudden movements
  - “Pile ups” can cause injury or suffocation of birds on the bottom
- Safe transport
  - Avoid overcrowding



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### Responders: Mental Health and Animals

- Response stress
  - Can affect responder mental health
  - May affect animal welfare
    - Responder apathy
    - Responder fatigue
    - Uncompleted tasks
    - Carelessness of tasks
    - Forgetting overall welfare needs



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### Resources

- American Veterinary Medical Association
  - The veterinarian’s role in animal welfare
    - [www.avma.org/products/animal\\_welfare/welfare.pdf](http://www.avma.org/products/animal_welfare/welfare.pdf)
  - AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia
    - [www.avma.org/issues/animal\\_welfare/euthanasia.pdf](http://www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/euthanasia.pdf)
- USDA Animal Welfare Information Center
  - <http://awic.nal.usda.gov>
- OIE Animal Welfare Guidelines
  - Terrestrial Animal Health Code
    - [www.oie.int](http://www.oie.int)
- American College of Animal Welfare
  - [www.acaw.org](http://www.acaw.org)

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