

## **Safety Guidelines for Handling and Disposing of Dead Wild Birds**

The carcass of a dead wild bird, including its body parts and internal organs, may carry pathogens that are hazardous to other birds and humans. Members of the public should avoid having direct contact with the carcass, blood or body fluid of dead wild birds. Do not allow pets to have contact with dead wild bird carcasses.

Report dead wild birds to MA Fish Wildlife using their online reporting tool; [Report observations of dead wild birds | Mass.gov](#)

### **Persons who are required to handle the carcass should have the following equipment :**

1. Disposable gloves
2. Surgical mask
3. Disposable apron (can be made with a trash bag)
4. Lysol spray
5. Duct tape
6. Two thick plastic trash bags

### **Procedures**

1. Wear gloves and a surgical mask when handling or transporting dead birds.
2. Disposable aprons should be worn when contamination of clothing is expected.

### **Handling and Disposing of Dead Bird**

1. Put the dead bird into a thick plastic trash bag with gloved hands. The bag should be sealed with duct tape
2. Place the bag with dead bird (inner bag) into another thick plastic trash bag (outer bag). Then remove the rubber gloves (inside out) and surgical mask and apron if used, and place into the outer bag. Seal the bag with duct tape.
3. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water. If hand washing facilities are not available use hand sanitizer.
4. Spray outside of outer bag with Lysol.
5. Place double bagged carcasses in a trash receptacle.