



## Legislative Overview

Dr. Brian Hoefs | State Veterinarian

# Introduction

- Dr. Brian Hoefs
- State Veterinarian and Executive Director
- Appointed August 2023



# Board Members



## Board Members

Erica Sawatzke | Board President, Poultry Producer, Kensington

Peggy Anne Hawkins, DVM | Board Vice President, Veterinarian, Northfield

Jessica Koppien-Fox, DVM | Veterinarian, Marshall

Alex Stade | Cattle Producer, Prior Lake

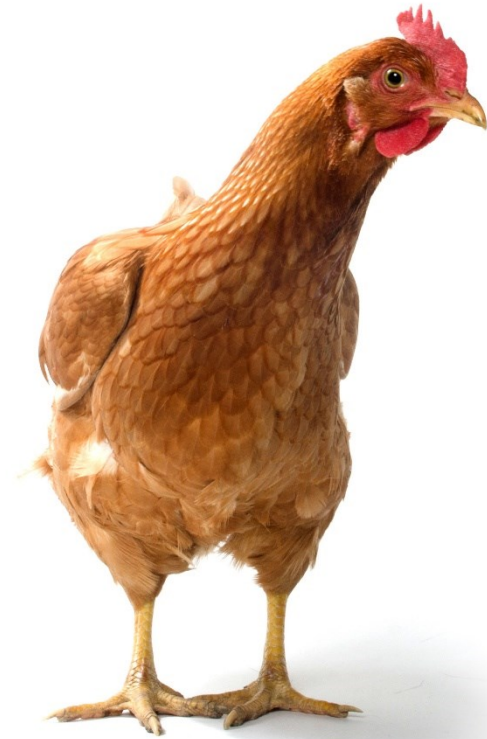
Steve Neil | Livestock Producer, Northfield

Brandon Schafer | Livestock Producer, Goodhue

Abigail Maynard, DVM | Veterinarian Specializing in Companion Animals, St. Paul Park

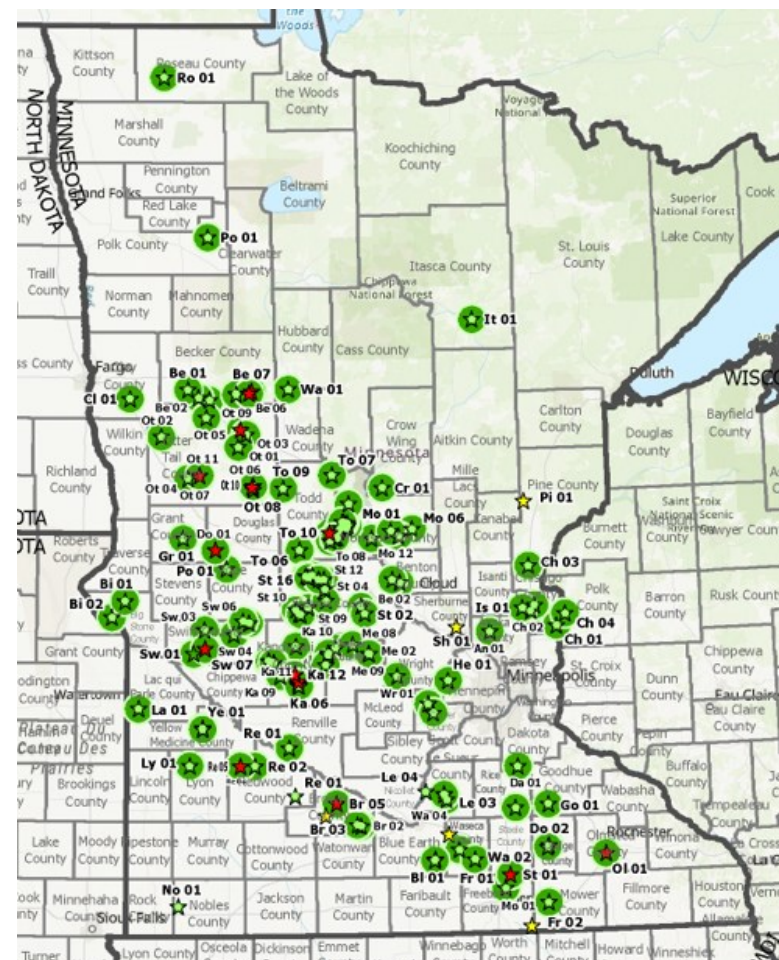
# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

- Last detection was January 10, 2024
- Continued surveillance and suspect testing
- Demobilizing the incident responders
- Preparing for a spring wave
- Cost to respond: \$450,000+ last year (BAH staff time only)



# Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Cases

- Fall 2023 to Winter 2024
- 39 H5N1 HPAI cases
  - 23 commercial turkey meat bird premises
  - 10 commercial turkey breeder bird premises
  - 1 commercial table egg layer premises
  - 5 backyard premises





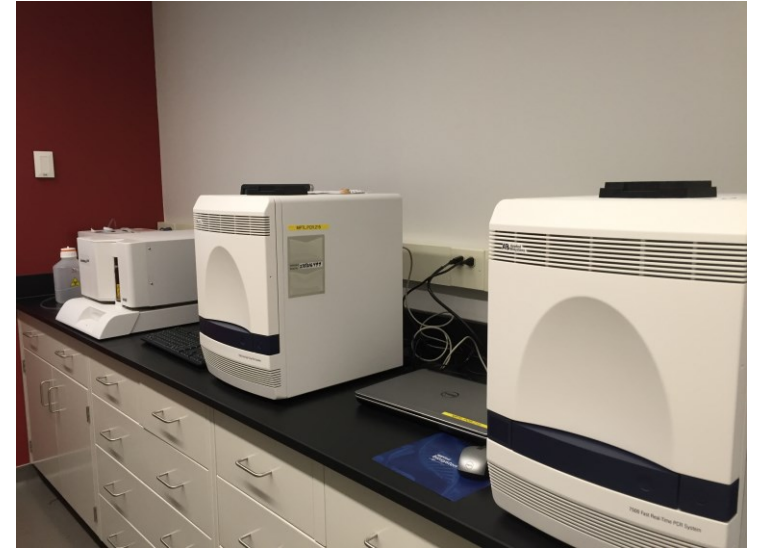
# Avian Metapneumovirus (aMPV)

- aMPV subtype B confirmed in January in samples from Virginia and North Carolina
- Historically, the U.S. (and Minnesota) has dealt with aMPV subtype C
  - Minnesota dealt with a significant aMPV disease problem in the turkey industry from 1998 through the mid-2000s
  - A 1998 processing plant surveillance program identified 40-60% of flocks tested were positive for aMPV
  - A vaccination eradication program was established to control/eradicate the virus
  - **Surveillance of commercial flocks in Minnesota ended in 2010 and surveillance of breeders ended in 2018**



# aMPV Next Steps

- Currently monitoring the national situation
- No reason to believe aMPV is circulating in Minnesota
- The University of Minnesota Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and Minnesota Poultry Testing Laboratory are extending testing methods to be able to test for all subtypes



# African Swine Fever

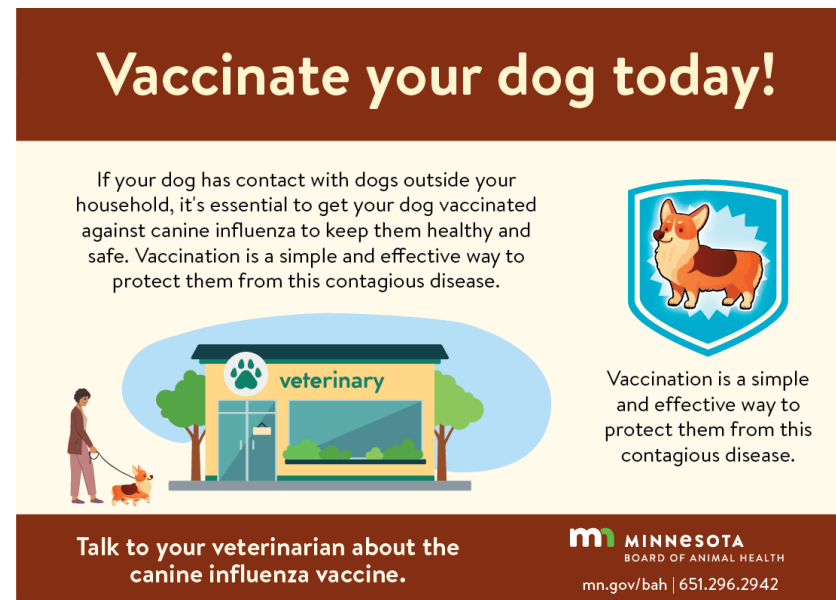
- Feral swine surveillance and monitoring in Canada
- DNR report on feral pigs
- Minnesota's pork producers planning and preparing for ASF





# Canine Influenza

- 106 confirmed cases and 196 suspected cases in shelters in 2023
- BAH worked quickly to educate and coordinate with clinics, dog owners and businesses to put a damper on the disease



# Atypical Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease

- Made headlines in 2023 as the “mystery dog illness”
- Many possible infectious agents cause canine infectious respiratory disease (CIRD)
- We don’t have a widespread surveillance system for CIRD
- Increasing trend in canine respiratory cases
- USDA identified causes of canine infectious respiratory disease in many of the cases

# Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease in Minnesota

- Continued surveillance for canine disease
- In the meantime...

## Take a break: Isolate your dog when they're sick

Dogs infected with canine influenza can shed the virus for 30 days after they're infected, even after they no longer appear sick.

Keep sick dogs and dogs known to have had contact with infected dogs home and away from animals outside the household for 30 days.



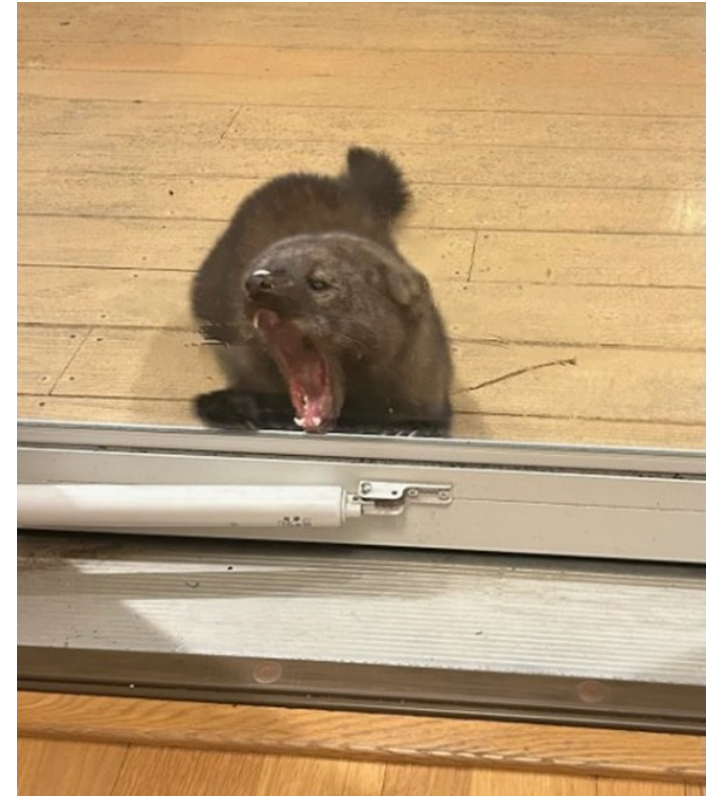
Always be sure to talk to your vet if your pet appears sick.

Talk to your veterinarian about the canine influenza vaccine.

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BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH  
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# Rabies

- Increase in rabies investigations and positive cases last year
- Majority of positive cases were bats
- One unique case of a rabies positive fisher





- Confirmed in Kittson County in July 2023
- First anthrax detection in Minnesota in more than a decade
- Anthrax is a naturally occurring, spore forming, bacteria found in some soils
- Not a risk to the public. Spread via infected animals or contaminated soil



# Farmed Cervids

- Transfer of Authority
  - DNR has white-tailed deer
  - BAH has all other cervids
  - Mixed herds share responsibility
- Last farmed CWD detection in August 2022



- The Board of Animal Health relies heavily on support and resources in the emergency response to HPAI from other State and Federal Agencies:
  - Minnesota Department of Agriculture
  - United States Department of Agriculture
  - Minnesota Department of Health
  - University of Minnesota
- The Board and Department of Natural Resources continue working well together to navigate and improve oversight of farmed cervids. Also collaborated with DNR on Feral Swine and Mink Report

# Thank You!

**Dr. Brian Hoefs**

State Veterinarian