

SAFE ANIMAL CONTACT AT PETTING ZOOS AND FAIRS



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People can acquire diseases from or be physically injured by animals. Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates 35 human infectious disease outbreaks associated with animals have occurred since 2001. These types of infectious diseases generally affect the intestinal tract and are primarily transmitted by the fecal-oral route. If animal fur, hair, skin, and saliva become contaminated with fecal matter, direct infectious disease transmission can occur when people touch, pet, feed, or are licked by the animal. Diseases may also be transmitted

through ingestion of fecal-contaminated dust. Petting zoos and fairs are places where animal-person contact is high and therefore, risk exists for infectious disease transmission and physical injuries. For additional information about safe animal contact at petting zoos and fairs, go to the Clover Safe note at: <http://ucanr.org/cloversafe>.

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