

ORGANIZING AND OPERATING A SAFE PETTING ZOO EVENT



People can acquire diseases from or be physically injured by animals. Because petting zoos are places where animal-human contact is intended to be high, controls must be established to prevent disease transmission and physical injuries. Infectious diseases are primarily transmitted from animals to humans by the fecal-oral route. Animal fur, hair, skin, and/or saliva that is contaminated with infectious fecal matter can be transferred to people when they touch, pet, feed, or are licked by an animal. Ingesting fecal-contaminated dust can also result in

transmission of infectious diseases. Humans may be physically injured when bitten, clawed, pecked, butted, or kicked by animals. For additional information about organizing and operating a safe petting zoo event, go to the Clover Safe note at: <http://ucanr.org/cloversafe>.

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