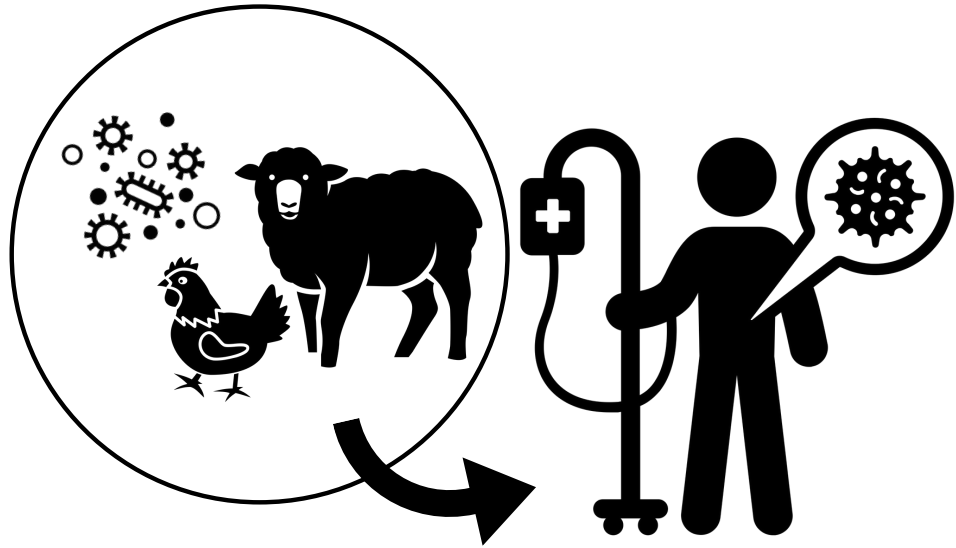
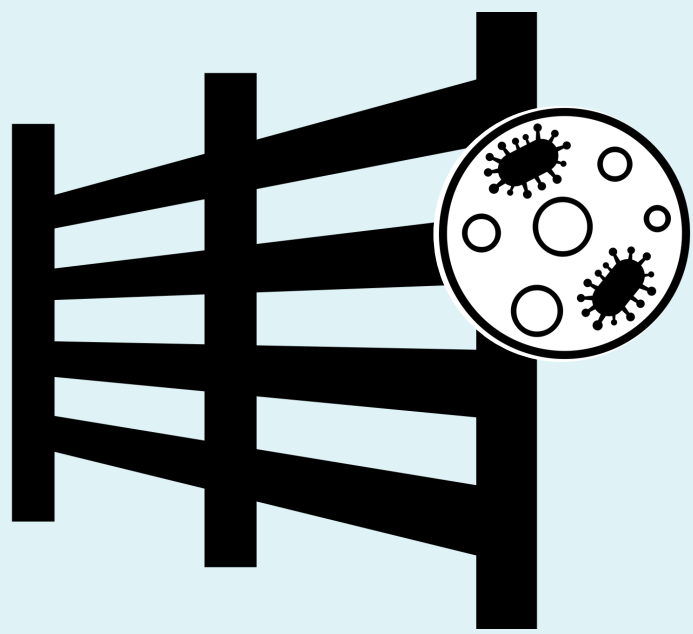


# Tips for keeping people healthy at petting zoos and farms

Staff and volunteers can help play an important role in keeping people safe and healthy around animals.



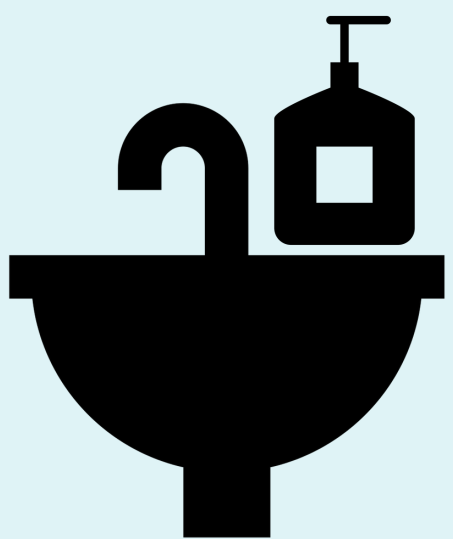
Animals that appear healthy can **spread harmful germs** that can make people sick.



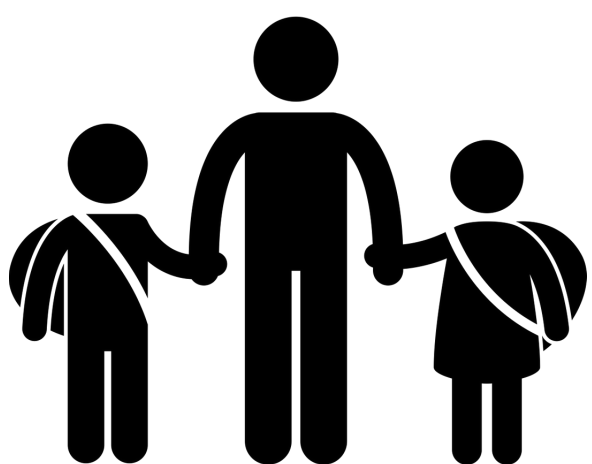
Injuries and **illnesses have occurred from being near animals** and their environment. Harmful germs can be on surfaces around animal areas.



**Hand washing is the most important step toward preventing disease.** People should wash their hands immediately after leaving an animal area.



People should wash their hands **even if they did not touch the animals.**



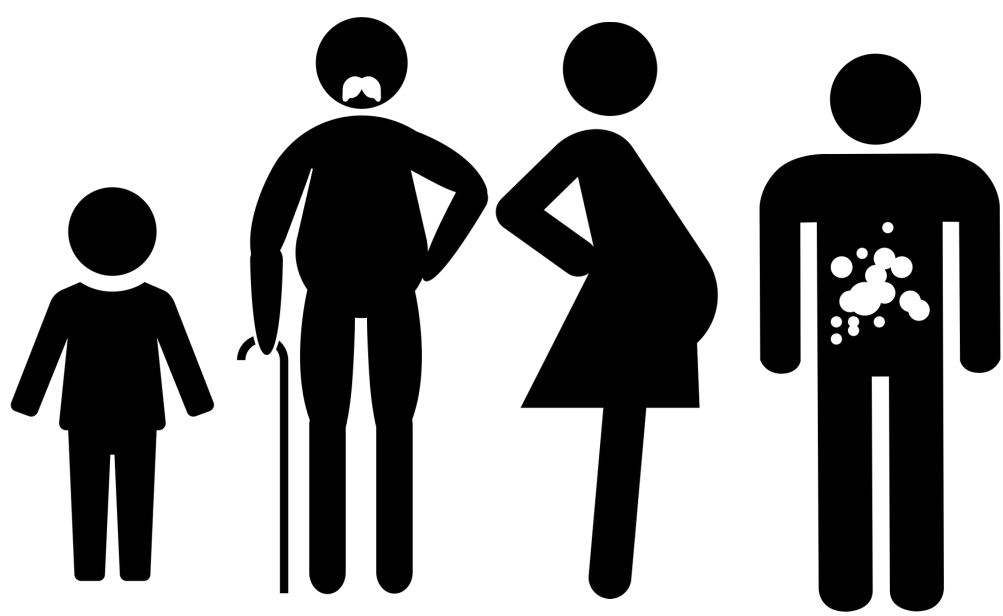
**Young children should always be supervised** around animals and when washing their hands.



Young children should be prevented from hand-to-mouth activities (e.g. nail biting, thumb sucking). People should not eat or drink in animal areas.



No visitors should have contact with sick animals.



Some people are at higher risk for getting serious illnesses from animals. This includes:

- children under 5 years of age
- adults older than 65 years of age
- pregnant women
- people with weakened immune systems



People at high risk for getting sick should avoid touching animals most likely to spread germs, including:

- pre-weaned calves
- live poultry (especially chicks & ducklings)
- reptiles and amphibians
- lambs and baby goats