



**Tips for Making Your Petting Zoo Safe for the Public**

- ☑ No food or drink should be allowed in animal areas.
- ☑ Carrying toys, use of pacifiers and baby bottles, and smoking should NOT be permitted in animal areas.
- ☑ Supervision of children, especially those younger than 5 years old, should be mandatory.
- ☑ Discourage hand-to-mouth contact and ensure proper hand-washing when needed, including after exiting animal areas.
- ☑ Provide hand-washing stations at exit. Running water and soap is strongly recommended. Use the fun recommendations page for hand-washing.
- ☑ Provide transition areas between animal areas and non-animal areas and clearly define them.
- ☑ Entrance transition areas should have signs that instruct visitors not to eat, drink, or place their hands in their mouth while in animal area.
- ☑ Exit transition areas should instruct visitors to wash their hands and guide visitors to hand-washing stations. Hand-washing stations should be accessible to children.
- ☑ Remove soiled animal bedding and manure promptly. Animal waste should be store temporarily in appropriately labeled containers that are lined with plastic bags. Waste removal tools (e.g. shovels and pitchforks) should be kept within designated animal areas and restricted from public access.
- ☑ Staff must be present in areas of animal contact to encourage appropriate human-animal interactions to reduce risk of injury and report exposures.
- ☑ If you allow animals to be fed by visitors, only food sold or provided by your venue should be allowed. Food for the animals should not be eaten by people and should not be provided in containers that can be eaten by people (e.g. ice cream cones). This will reduce risk of animal bites and likelihood of children eating food that has come into contact with animals.
- ☑ Food vendors should NOT be located immediately adjacent to animal exhibits due to the natural spread of animal waste in the environment.