

Protection from Zoonotic Disease

Animals can carry harmful germs that can be spread to humans. These germs are called zoonotic diseases. These diseases can cause many types of illnesses in people and animals, ranging from mild to serious and even death. Animals can appear healthy even when they are carrying diseases that can make people sick. Protect yourself and your pets by following the steps listed.

PROTECT YOURSELF

1. Leave all wildlife and unfamiliar pets alone, including injured animals.
2. Wash your hands properly with soap and water after interacting and caring for pets.
3. Do not kiss, snuggle, or hold rodents, reptiles, amphibians, and poultry (chicks and ducklings) close to your face, or allow pets to lick your face or mouth.
4. Cook meats and eggs to the proper temperature.
5. Wash fruits and vegetables before eating.
6. Prevent bites from mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas by using an insect repellent.
7. Clean bites and scratches from animals with soap and water and seek medical care.

PROTECT YOUR PETS

1. Keep pets' vaccinations up to date.
2. Do not allow your pet to have contact with stray or wild animals.
3. Use flea and tick protection on pets.
4. Keep your pet on a leash. Do not allow them to roam.
5. Seek veterinary care when your pet becomes ill or injured.
6. Do not feed pets raw or undercooked meats.
7. Do not leave pet food outdoors.



MAINTAIN YOUR HOME

1. Seal small cracks, crevices, gaps, holes or openings in structures or fences.
2. Screen windows, vents, attic and chimney openings.
3. Eliminate wood piles, trash, broken down vehicles, tires, clutter or other debris and unwanted household items from your property.
4. Fix all leaking pipes and remove standing water.
5. Keep grass and weeds cut low.
6. Keep tree branches shrubbery and vegetation away from the house.
7. Dispose of garbage regularly in a sealed trash bin.
8. Routinely clean by wiping up crumbs and spills, sweeping or vacuuming floors and washing dirty clothes and dishes.

