Tips for staying healthy at petting zoos and farms

- Animals that appear healthy can spread harmful germs that can make you 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 you can take to prevent getting sick. Wash your hands immediately after leaving an animal area.
- Wash your hands even if you did not touch any animals.
- If you are supervising young children, always watch them carefully around animals and make sure they wash their hands thoroughly.

For more information: kingcounty.gov/pettingfarms
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You or a child in your care may be at higher risk for getting very sick from animals. People more likely to get sick and experience worse symptoms include:
- children under 5
- adults older than 65
- pregnant individuals
- people with weakened immune systems

If you or a child in your care is at higher risk for getting sick, avoid touching animals most likely to spread germs, including pre-weaned calves, live poultry, reptiles, amphibians, lambs and baby goats.

If you get sick after visiting a petting farm or zoo - even if you didn't touch or pet any animals - contact your health care provider and tell them about your visit. Vomiting, diarrhea and stomach pain are some common symptoms of illnesses that spread from animals.