**For Immediate Release**

[Date]

Media Contact: Name | Number | Email

**[Local Health Department] Shares Health and Safety Tips
for Visitors to Fairs and Petting Zoos This Season**

[County or City, State] – [Local Health Department] urges visitors attending local fairs and petting zoos this [spring/summer] to practice simple steps to stay safe and healthy.

The [Fair Name] is back! With all of the animal exhibits and shows to see, plus fun food and games to try, it’s important to keep a few health and safety tips in mind to make sure your visit to the fair is an enjoyable one:

* **Keep cool** – take breaks in the shade and visit the indoor (air-conditioned) exhibits.
* **Prevent sunburn** – apply sunscreen regularly and wear sunglasses or a hat.
* **Stay hydrated** – bring a water bottle or visit the water fountains throughout the fair.
* **Keep your hands clean** – wash your hands often at any of the handwashing stations throughout the fairgrounds, especially after being in any animal areas and before you eat or put anything in your mouth.

Animal exhibits are a favorite for many visitors at the fair, but it’s important to know that livestock and other farm animals naturally carry germs that can make people sick. By following a few simple steps, you can help prevent animal germs from spreading and making you or your family sick:

* Do not eat, drink, or put anything in your mouth while in areas where animals are kept or are on display.
* Keep all toys, pacifiers, cups, baby bottles and other drink containers, and strollers out of animal exhibits, or put these items away before entering animal areas to prevent contamination. Do not touch these items again until you have washed your hands with soap and water.
* Keep an eye on young children while in animal exhibit areas and keep them from putting their fingers or anything else in their mouths.
* Wash hands with soap and running water for at least 20 seconds as soon as possible after being in animal areas, even if you did not touch any animals.

If you develop any illness after visiting animal exhibits at the fair, including fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or stomach pain, see a healthcare provider and tell them about any recent activity around farm animals.

For more information, visit:

* [CDC Stay Healthy at Animal Exhibits webpage](https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/specific-groups/stay-healthy-animal-exhibits.html)
* [CDPH Zoönotic Diseases webpage](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/ZoonoticDiseases.aspx)
* [LHD webpage/contact info]

The [Fair Name] runs from [Date] to [Date] at [Location]. Learn more: [Fair Website]

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**About the [Local Health Department]**