



Is Pet Love Risky?

Welcome!

The Partnership for Food Safety Education develops and promotes effective education programs to reduce foodborne illness risk for consumers.

We are a non-profit organization that relies on grants and donations.



Moderators



Britanny Saunier
Director of Development
Partnership for Food
Safety Education



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Webinar Support Team



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Website Designer & Developer

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Assistants





We welcome your questions!

Please use the question box on the right of the screen.



After the webinar, you will receive a brief survey. Please fill it out.

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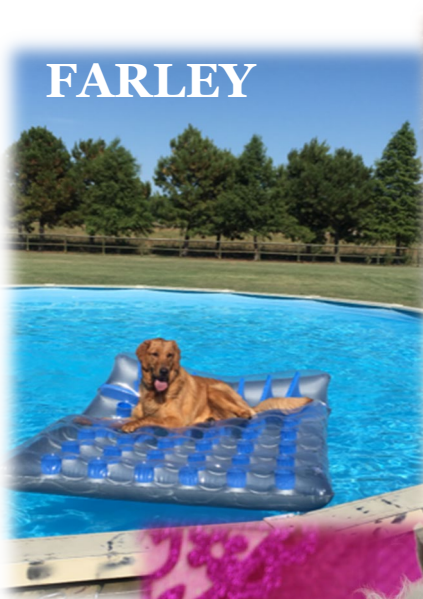
Poll Question #1

What kind of pet do you have?

1. A puurrfect kitty
2. A tail wagging dog
3. A rad reptile (i.e. turtle, snake, lizard)
4. Another type of pet
5. I don't have a pet.



Pets from Webinar Attendees!



FARLEY



KILLORAN



HAMILTON



PEREZ &
NANCEE



Speakers



Dr. Megin Nichols

Enteric Zoonoses Activity Lead
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention



Lauren Stevenson

Epidemiologist/Health Communicator
Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention





Is Pet Love Risky?

Megin Nichols, DVM, MPH, DACVPM

Lauren Stevenson, MHS

Enteric Zoonotic Activity

Outbreak Response and Prevention Branch

Division of Foodborne, Waterborne and Environmental Diseases

February 14, 2019

Objectives

- Review the enteric disease risks associated with pets
- Examine cleaning and sanitation practices consumers can use to prevent illness
- Discuss how CDC communicates regarding illnesses linked to contact with pets

Zoonotic Diseases or Zoonoses

- Disease or infection naturally transmissible between vertebrate animals and humans
- Bacterial, viral, fungal, or parasitic
- Prevent efficient production of food of animal origin
- Create obstacles to international trade in animal products

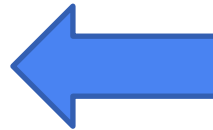
Hale et al., 2012



Moving Upstream



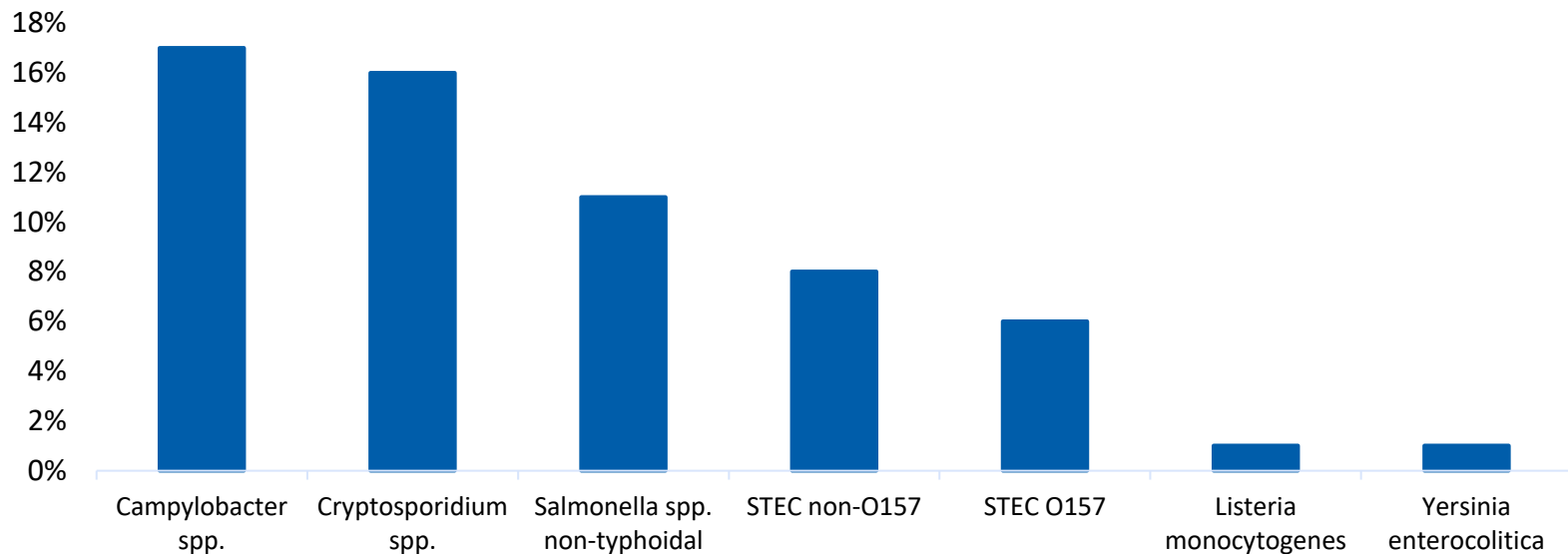
Animal-associated



Foodborne

Disease Attribution for Animal Contact

- 14% of all illnesses caused by 7 groups of pathogens were attributable to animal contact
- Estimated 445,213 illnesses annually for the 7 groups combined

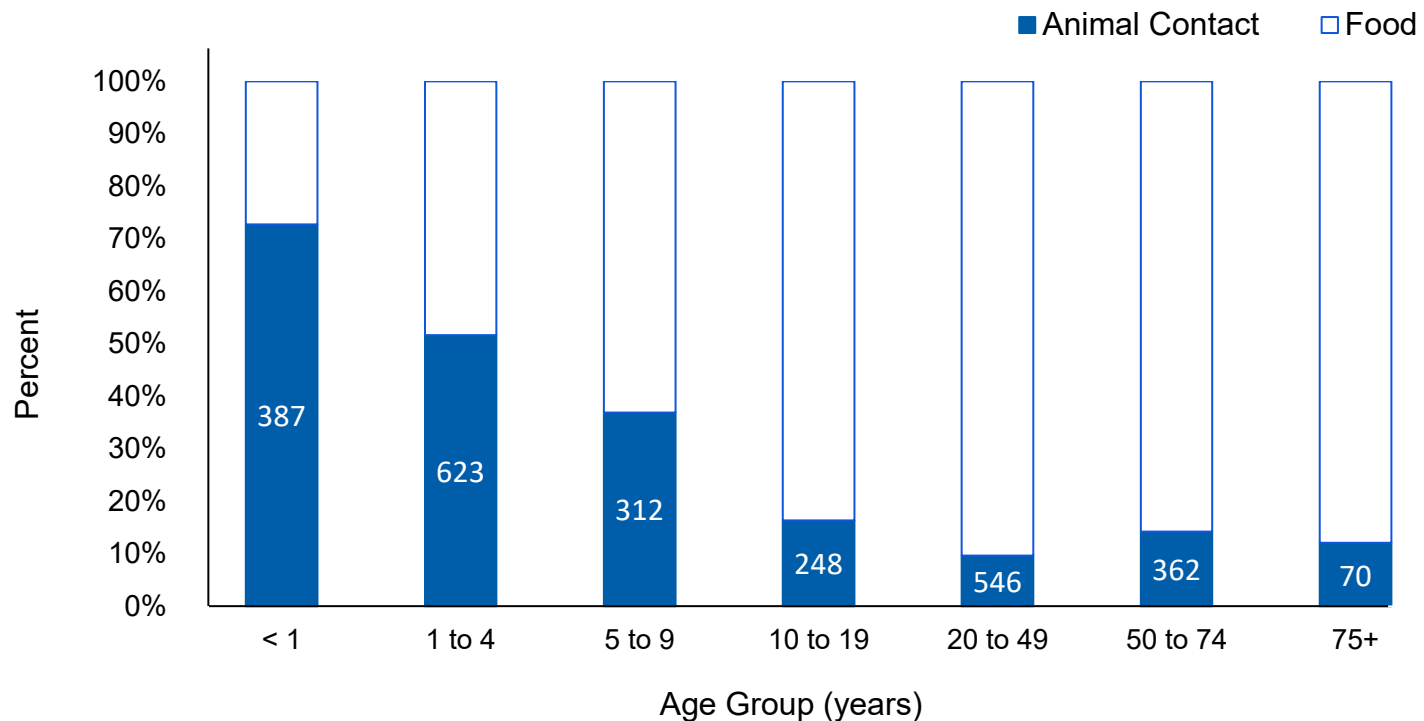


Enteric Zoonoses Epidemiology

- Demographics
- Exposure type
- Duration
- Seasonality

Demographics

Percent of Total Illnesses in Each Age Group, by Primary Mode of Transmission, reported to the National Outbreak Reporting System (NORS), 2009–2014



Exposure: Direct vs. Indirect Contact

- Direct Contact
 - Touching, snuggling kissing animals
 - Petting zoos, farms, homes
- Indirect Contact
 - Cleaning animal feces or environment
 - Touching animal cages, bedding, litter boxes
 - Pet stores, multi-purpose spaces (barns)



Exposure: Occupation

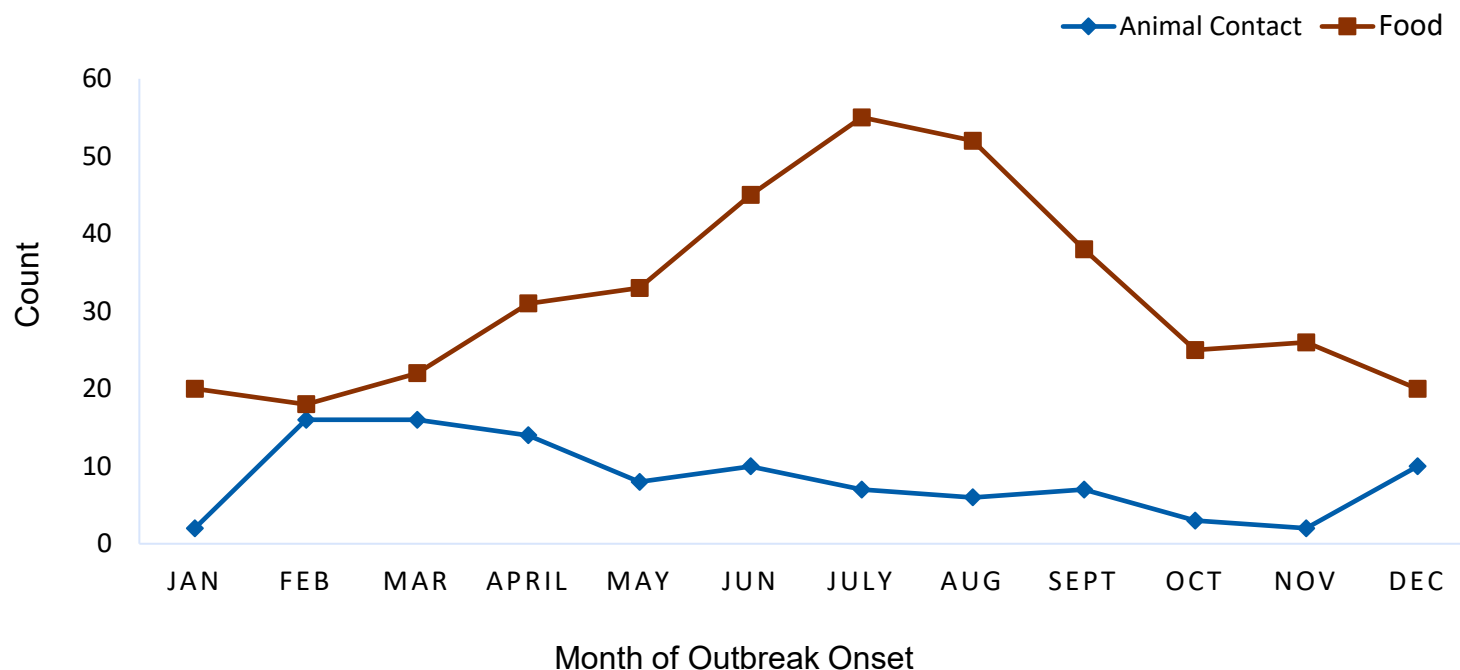
- Ranchers
- Dairy workers
- Veterinarians
- Slaughterhouse workers
- Postal workers
- Pet store workers
- Zoo keepers



Evidence of immunity among persons frequently exposed to *Campylobacter* and *E. coli* O157, but NOT *Salmonella*.

Enteric Zoonoses Seasonality

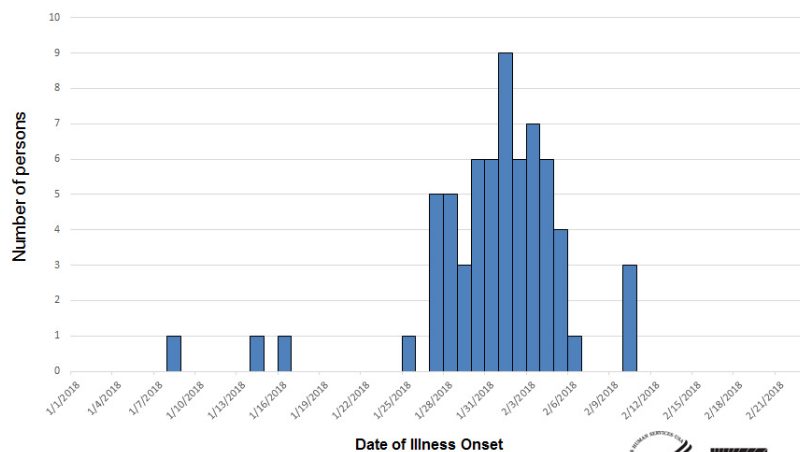
Month of outbreak onset by primary mode of transmission, NORS, 2009–2014



Public Health Interventions and Recommendations

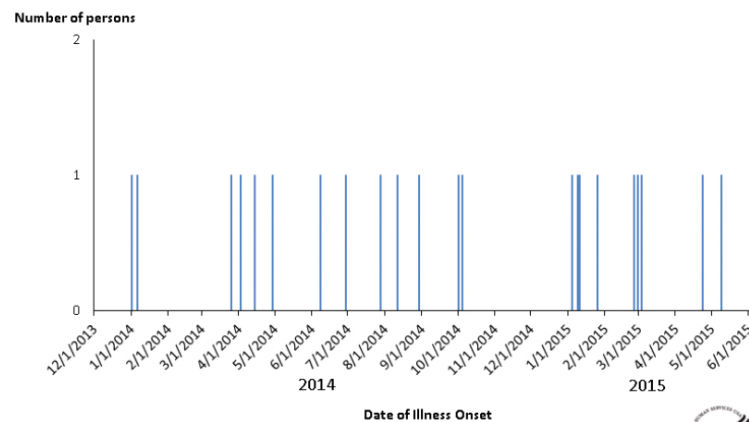
Foodborne Outbreak

People infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Typhimurium, by date of illness onset*



Enteric Zoonotic Outbreak

People infected with the outbreak strains of *Salmonella* Muenchen, by date of illness onset*



Poll Question #2

In your line of work, how often do you get questions on handling of pets as it relates to food safety?

1. All the time!
2. Every so often
3. I've never been asked a pet food safety question.



Public Health Interventions and Recommendations: A Multi-tiered Approach

- Animal production and raising
- Retail stores and industry
- Consumer homes



Recent Outbreaks: *Salmonella* Enteritidis Infections Linked to Pet Guinea Pigs

- 9 people affected, 8 states
 - 1 hospitalization
- Pet rodents, including guinea pigs, not recommended for groups at greater risk for serious illness
 - children younger than 5 years
 - pregnant women
 - elderly adults,
 - people with weakened immune systems



Multidrug-Resistant *Campylobacter jejuni* Outbreak Linked to Puppy Exposure — United States, 2016–2018

- 113 people, 17 states
 - 23 hospitalizations
- Resistant to antibiotics used to treat infections in people and puppies
- Puppies and dogs can carry *Campylobacter*
 - Don't let pets lick around your mouth and face
 - Don't let pets lick open wounds
 - Take your dog to the veterinarian regularly



Outbreak of *Salmonella* Infections Linked to Pet Hedgehogs

- 11 people, 8 states
 - 1 hospitalization
- Wash your hands
- Clean habitats, toys, and supplies outside the house when possible
- Pick the right pet for your family



Pet Food Safety

- Food, Drug & Cosmetic Act
 - Under this law, FDA is responsible for making sure food for both people and animals is safe, properly manufactured, and properly labeled
- However, outbreaks still occur
 - **CDC does not recommend feeding raw diets to pets.** Germs like *Salmonella* and *Listeria* bacteria have been found in raw pet foods, even packaged ones sold in stores. These germs can make your pets sick.
 - Your **family also can get sick by handling the raw food** or by taking care of your pet.

Two MN Children Sickened with Salmonella Reading Infections After Raws for Paws Pet Food Fed to Their Pets

February 9, 2018 by **News Desk**

Two children in Minnesota are sick with **Salmonella Reading** infections after **Raws for Paws** raw ground turkey pet food was fed to pets in their home, according to the Minnesota Department of Health. That pet food was recalled February 5, 2018 by the manufacturer, as Food Poisoning Bulletin told you earlier today.



Pets from Webinar Attendees!





Communicating about Enteric Zoonoses

Poll Question #3

Do you feel you have the information you need to support consumers on the topic of pet food safety?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I have not thought about it.
4. I just “wing” it. (Do you see what we did there?)



Why CDC Communicates about Enteric Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks

- Often there is no single regulatory authority for disease prevention
- No product action to stop illnesses
 - Foodborne outbreaks can result in recalls
 - No recall activities occur around an animal or pet
- Simple steps people can take to stay safe around their animals

Crafting the CDC Message

- Because our goal is to prevent additional illnesses, CDC's most important message is crafting the advice for consumers
- In order for our advice to lead to action, it needs to be:
 - Specific
 - Clear
 - Complete



Advice to Pet Owners and Retailers

CDC Website



Investigation Notice

Posted January 25, 2019 at 1:30 PM ET

- Case count and affected states
- Advice to consumers and retailers
- Investigation details and relevant links

CDC and public health officials in several states are investigating a multistate outbreak of *Salmonella* infections linked to contact with pet hedgehogs.

Latest Outbreak Information



- Eleven people infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Typhimurium have been reported from eight states.
 - One person has been hospitalized and no deaths have been reported.
- [Epidemiologic and laboratory evidence](#) indicate that contact with pet hedgehogs is the likely source of this outbreak.
 - In interviews, 10 (91%) of 11 ill people reported contact with a hedgehog.
 - A common supplier of hedgehogs in this outbreak has not been identified.
- The outbreak strain making people sick was identified in samples collected from three hedgehogs in two ill patients' homes in Minnesota.

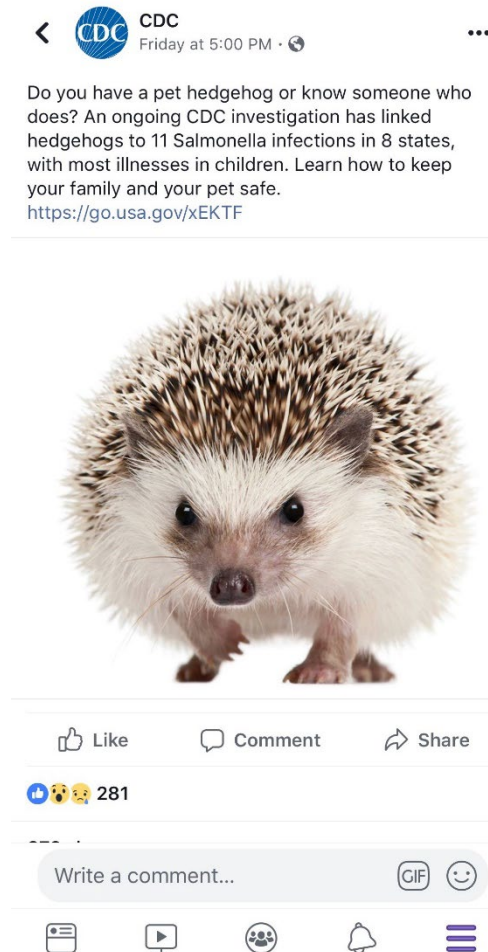
At A Glance

- [Reported Cases](#): 11
- [States](#): 8
- Hospitalizations: 1
- Deaths: 0



CDC Social Media

- Opportunity to engage in real time conversation with audience
- Used to drive traffic to the CDC outbreak page



News Media

- Media help amplify our message to a wider audience

‘Don’t kiss or snuggle hedgehogs’ because of salmonella risk, CDC warns

Pet hedgehogs cause multistate outbreak of *Salmonella*

Health Top Stories

CDC Warns Against PDA With Hedgehogs To Prevent Spreading Salmonella Outbreak

CDC Warns Why You Shouldn't Kiss Your Hedgehog And Of Salmonella Outbreak

Communicating regarding outbreaks

Social Media: Behavior Clues



Stay healthy around small pets!



Pet rodents (such as mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils, and guinea pigs) and other small pets (such as hedgehogs, sugar gliders, chinchillas, and ferrets) can sometimes carry germs that can make people sick. These germs can cause illnesses ranging from serious diarrhea to birth defects.

- Small pets can carry germs even if they look healthy and clean.
- Germs are shed in their droppings and can easily contaminate their bodies, habitats, toys, bedding, and anything in areas where they live.
- » These germs can spread to people after they touch these animals or anything in their habitats.

But there's good news! You can take steps to stay healthy while enjoying your pets.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM GERMS



PICK THE RIGHT PET FOR YOUR FAMILY.

Rodents and other small pets are not recommended for children under 5 years old, adults over 65, or people with weakened immune systems because they are at a greater risk for serious illness from germs that pets can carry.

WASH YOUR HANDS.

Always wash hands thoroughly with soap and water right after touching, feeding, or caring for your pets or cleaning their habitats.

• Adults should supervise hand washing for young children.

• If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer until you are able to wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.



.....

KEEP IT CLEAN.



Keep small pets and their supplies out of kitchens and other areas where food is prepared, served, stored, or consumed.

- Clean habitats, toys, and supplies outside the house when possible.
- If you clean supplies indoors, use a laundry sink or bathtub, and thoroughly clean and disinfect the area right after.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
WWW.CDC.GOV/HEALTHYPETS



PLAY SAFELY.

- Don't kiss, snuggle, or hold small pets close to your face.
- Don't let them roam free in your home.
- Don't touch your mouth after handling small pets.
- Don't eat or drink around animals.



**Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention**
National Center for Emerging and
Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

IF YOU BUY A PET TURTLE

buy one from a reputable pet store or breeder.



A playing card is 3 1/2 inches long



Although any size turtle can carry *Salmonella*, tiny turtles are especially risky. Since 1975, the sale of turtles in the US with shell lengths less than 4 inches has been banned by FDA. However, tiny turtles are still sold by street vendors, flea markets, and souvenir shops.

Only buy turtles with shell lengths longer than 4 inches.

Talk to the staff at a reputable pet store to learn more about pet turtles.



DON'T TOSS YOUR TURTLE!

Don't release unwanted turtles. Call your local reputable pet store or a reptile rescue.

Find out more at www.cdc.gov/healthypets



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
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CS255060.E

HEALTHY FAMILIES AND FLOCKS

Live poultry, such as chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys, often carry harmful germs such as *Salmonella*. While it usually doesn't make the birds sick, *Salmonella* can cause serious illness when it is passed to people.

HANDWASHING PROTECTS YOU FROM GERMS



- Always wash your hands with soap and water right after touching live poultry or anything in the area where they live and roam.
- Adults should supervise handwashing for young children.
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

HANDLE BIRDS SAFELY



- Children younger than 5 years, adults older than 65 years, and people with weakened immune systems should not handle or touch chicks, ducklings, or other live poultry.
- Do not bring chicks, ducklings and other live poultry to schools, childcare centers, or nursing homes.
- Do not snuggle or kiss the birds, touch your mouth, or eat or drink around live poultry.

SAFELY CLEAN COOPS

- Clean any equipment used to care for live poultry outside, such as cages or feed or water containers.
- Set aside a pair of shoes to wear while taking care of poultry and keep those shoes outside of the house.



POULTRY BELONG OUTSIDE

- Do not let live poultry inside the house, especially in kitchens.
- Do not let live poultry in areas where food or drink is prepared, served, or stored.



U.S. Department of
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Control and Prevention

Have a Backyard Flock? Don't Wing It.
Visit www.cdc.gov/features/salmonellapoultry
for more information

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**ALWAYS WASH YOUR HANDS
AFTER HANDLING LIVE POULTRY**





A healthy diet is important for everyone, even your pets! When picking out the right food for your pet, there are important things to consider.

Pet Food Safety

Raw pet foods can make pets and people sick

CDC does not recommend feeding raw diets to pets.

Germs like *Salmonella* and *Listeria bacteria* have been found in raw pet foods, even packaged ones sold in stores. These germs can make your pets sick. Your **family also can get sick by handling the raw food** or by taking care of your pet.



What about
dry and canned
pet food?

Dry and canned pet food also can be contaminated with germs. Before making any changes to your pet's diet, talk with your veterinarian.



Pet Food Safety

Tips to stay healthy while feeding your pet



Always wash your hands with soap and water right after handling pet food or treats; this is the most important step to prevent illness.



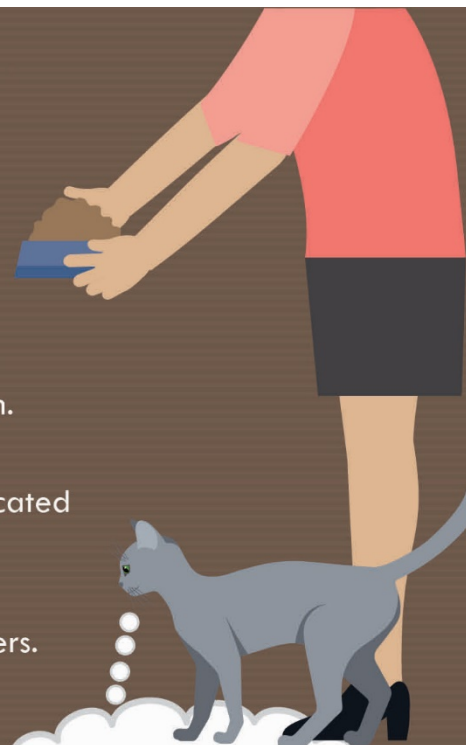
When possible, store pet food and treats away from where human food is stored or prepared and away from reach of young children.



Don't use your pet's feeding bowl to scoop food. Use a clean, dedicated scoop, spoon, or cup.



Always follow any storage instructions on pet food bags or containers.



Additional Resources

- Healthy Pets, Healthy People
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/index.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/publications/index.html>
- Outbreaks
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/outbreaks.html>

Thank you!

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For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Questions





Drawing Winner!

Winner of \$20 Amazon Gift Card

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41: Kristin Killoran
with her rooster
CONGRADULATIONS
!!





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National Chicken Council
National Grocers Association

National Pork Board
National Restaurant Association
National Turkey Federation
North American Millers' Association
NSF International
Produce Marketing Association
Publix Super Markets Charities
Refrigerated Foods Association
Sysco Corporation
Tyson Foods
United Fresh Produce Association

Federal Government Liaisons

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
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A **survey** will pop up immediately following this webinar.



Please respond to it.

Then we'll know how to serve you better!

Thank you!



Thank you!



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