Animals

§112.83 Microbial Pathogens

Animals

Animals can carry pathogens such as *E. coli, Salmonella,* and *Listeria*. Animals spread pathogens through feces and urine.

Nearby water sources such as ponds or streams can be contaminated from animal feces. Never use untreated surface water for harvesting or handling produce. If you touch untreated water with your hands, wash them thoroughly.

Don't harvest produce that has recently touched untreated surface water.

Don't harvest produce that has been chewed upon or if it has feces (bird or mammal) on it or immediately around it. A no-harvest buffer around feces may be necessary if produce is likely contaminated by nearby feces.

Don't allow pets in produce growing, storing, or packing areas.

If you touch an animal, wash your hands before touching produce.

Watch for animal feces when harvesting. Particles could have spread from wind or rain water. Avoid harvesting produce if you think fecal matter could have contaminated produce.

Use dedicated tools for feces removal or wash tools after removing animal feces from the field.

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