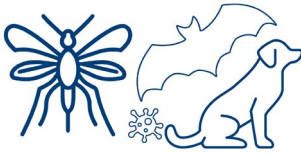


1. Communicable Diseases

Communicable diseases are illnesses that can spread between people through germs like bacteria, viruses, parasites and fungi. They can spread in many different ways:

How do communicable diseases spread?

			
People who are infected • By touch • Having sex • Droplets when someone coughs or sneezes • Blood and body fluids (e.g. saliva, mucous) • Feces (poop)	Insects or animals • Bites (e.g. ticks, mosquitos, bats, dogs) • Touching infected animals • Touching animal body fluids	Surfaces or air • Surfaces or objects we touch that have germs on them • The air we breathe (e.g. tuberculosis, chickenpox)	Food or water • Infected food like meat, vegetables • Drinking water that's contaminated

See the next sections to learn more about specific diseases that may be common at shelters:

- Respiratory viruses
- Gastrointestinal Illness
- Tuberculosis (TB)
- Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)