



WHAT YOU CAN DO

- **Never patronize tiger displays.**
- **Tigers are easily acquired on the Internet and even from newspaper ads.** Federal laws protecting exotic animals in captivity are weak and poorly enforced. Many cities have banned traveling wildlife displays and the private ownership of dangerous exotic animals. Start a campaign to pass similar legislation in your town. Contact PETA for an exotic animal ordinance pack.
- **If your local shopping center or any other venue is sponsoring a tiger or other animal display, provide the management with PETA's information about these exhibits and ask that the event be canceled.** Contact PETA for a traveling animal act pack. If the event isn't canceled, urge people not to patronize it, and write a letter to the editor of your paper informing people as to why these displays are cruel to animals.

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TIGERS:

America's Latest Homeless "Pet"

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EXPERTS ESTIMATE THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST 15,000 "PET" TIGERS IN THE UNITED STATES. MANY ARE CONFINED TO WINDOWLESS BASEMENTS, RELEGATED TO MAKESHIFT BACKYARD CAGES, USED TO GUARD CRACK HOUSES, OR EXPLOITED FOR PROFIT BY CON ARTISTS.

IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT, TIGERS LIVE IN THICK FORESTS AND TALL GRASSES. THEY ROAM TERRITORIES OF UP TO 400 SQUARE MILES AND LOVE TO SWIM IN COOL STREAMS. IN CAPTIVITY, THEY ARE OFTEN KEPT IN SMALL, BARREN CAGES WHERE THEY MAY GO INSANE FROM THE LACK OF FREEDOM AND EXERCISE.



BREEDING TIGERS IN CAPTIVITY DOES NOTHING TO HELP THE ESTIMATED 5,000 ENDANGERED TIGERS REMAINING IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT. NONE OF THE CAPTIVE TIGERS WILL EVER BE RELEASED IN THE WILD.

1. THE CONSERVATION CON

Chances are that you've seen a tiger display at a shopping mall, theme park, fair, or convention. They often feature white tigers because of their unusual color. White tigers are not an endangered species and all white tigers are inbred, which has led to serious congenital defects. The exhibitors often charge a fee to have your picture taken with a cute, cuddly tiger cub and say that the funds are used to "take care of" and "conserve" the animals. They target people who think they are supporting a good cause. In reality, these phony "conservationists" swindle money from a caring public while sentencing tigers to a lifetime of misery.

2. A DEAD-END STREET

When cubs grow too large to manage, they often end up in dilapidated roadside zoos, with tiger breeders who supply the pet trade, or shot on "canned hunting" ranches. Since tigers are worth more dead than alive, some are killed illegally and their skin, bones, flesh, and organs are sold on the black market.



Possibly an unwanted "pet," this tiger was shot and skinned in a trailer.

3. CRADLE ROBBERS

In the wild, tiger cubs stay with their mothers for three years. This time together is vital for normal development. But at tiger-breeding mills, cubs are typically pulled from their mothers when they are just 5 days old and have their claws amputated when they are as young as 2 weeks old. Still nursing, the fragile infants are then sold as "pets" or carted around the country by traveling zoos.



Traveling zoos portray dangerous tigers as cuddly "pets."

4. CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE DANGEROUS KIND

Direct contact with tigers, even cubs, is extremely dangerous. Just since 1990, captive tigers have killed six adults and two children. Nearly 60 others have been seriously injured in tiger maulings, such as the 3-year-old boy whose arm was bitten off by his uncle's "pet" tiger in Texas and a 5-year-old boy who required plastic surgery on his face after being attacked by a tiger at a photo booth at the North Dakota state fair.