



Reptile Safety Tips

Protect yourself and your family !!

- 🦎 Always wash your hands thoroughly after you handle reptiles or anything they have touched. Use soap and water.
- 🦎 Keep reptiles in their own living area; don't let them roam free.
- 🦎 Keep reptiles out of your kitchen and other areas used for food preparation.
- 🦎 Don't nuzzle, lick, or kiss reptiles when you handle them.
- 🦎 Periodically clean and sanitize reptile cages and other living areas, using bleach or another disinfectant.
- 🦎 Keep reptiles away from infants, toddlers, and people with weakened immune systems (for example, people with cancer, AIDS, or organ transplants).
- 🦎 Children should handle reptiles only with adult guidance.
- 🦎 Wash your hands. Wash your hands. WASH YOUR HANDS !!

REPTILE HANDLING is a very common source of salmonellosis—a diarrheal illness that can be severe or even life-threatening. Unfortunately, most reptiles (including lizards, snakes, and turtles) carry **Salmonella** bacteria. The bacteria are shed in their droppings and easily contaminate their skin and environment.

