

WAC 246-100-191

Animals: General measures to prevent human disease.

1. The purpose of this rule is to protect the public from acquiring animals and animal products that might transmit diseases to humans.
2. The definitions in this section apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
 - “Carapace” means a hard bony outer covering, such as the fused dorsal plates of a turtle.
 - “Immunocompromised” means having the immune system impaired or weakened (as by drugs or illness).
 - “Person” means any individual, corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock company, or any governmental agency, or the authorized agents of these entities.
 - “Poultry” means chickens, ducks, turkeys, and other domestic farm birds.
 - “Turtles” means all animals commonly known as turtles, tortoises, terrapins, and all other animals of the order Testudinata, class Reptilia, except marine species in the families Dermachelidae and Chelonidae.
 - “Vendor” means a person selling, trading, or transferring an animal to another person for a commercial purpose.
3. A vendor transferring a reptile, amphibian, or poultry chick for the purpose of being kept as a pet shall provide each buyer or recipient a written notification including:
 - a. Information about possible human diseases contracted from reptiles, amphibians, or poultry chicks, such as *Salmonella* infection;
 - b. Who is at greater risk for contracting and experiencing severe illness related to contact with reptiles, amphibians, and poultry chicks, such as the young, elderly, and immunocompromised persons; and
 - c. Disease prevention messages, such as proper hand-washing and recommendations for high risk groups.
4. Live turtles with a carapace length of less than 4 inches shall not be sold, held for sale, offered for sale or distribution, for the purpose of being kept as a pet.
5. All persons are prohibited from selling milk, meat, hides, and hair that is contaminated, or suspected of being contaminated, with anthrax.
6. All persons are prohibited from selling, transferring, or acquiring an animal or animal product associated with a zoonosis outbreak or suspected outbreak as determined by the state health officer or local health officer.

Colored Font Key

1. **Black = original Wac language**
2. **GREEN = NEW LANGUAGE CORE WORKGROUP**
3. **BLUE = COMPENDIA LANGUAGE**
4. **Orange = miscellaneous source**
5. **Purple = Comments/changes from interagency workgroup**