Wash your hands thoroughly after you handle reptiles, their food or anything they have touched.

Cage reptiles in designated habitats; don’t let them roam around the store.

Keep reptiles out of food preparation areas.

Don’t nuzzle or kiss them.

Clean and sanitize reptiles’ habitats often.

Keep reptiles away from children under 1 year of age or people with weakened immune systems. Children under 5 should handle reptiles only with adult supervision. Always remind them to wash their hands afterwards.

Educate your customers on safely handling their pet reptiles.

Reptiles carry Salmonella bacteria which can make people sick. In Washington state, recent cases of Salmonella have been traced to the handling of pet turtles, lizards, and snakes. To reduce your chance of infection and to protect others, follow these tips when handling any reptile. Be safe. Play by the rules!