Healthy Handling: Aquariums

Although rare, aquatic life may transmit disease agents, such as *Atypical Mycobacterium* or *Salmonella*, to humans. Fortunately, taking a few simple precautions will help protect you from getting sick from your aquatic pets. Make sure that everyone handling aquatic life, including children, follows these precautions:

- Always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water after handling aquatic life or material that had contact with aquatic life.
- Skin wounds should always be covered.
- Never use food-preparation areas to clean aquatic life habitats or anything in their habitats. If you clean the habitat in the bathroom, disinfect the area completely afterwards.