



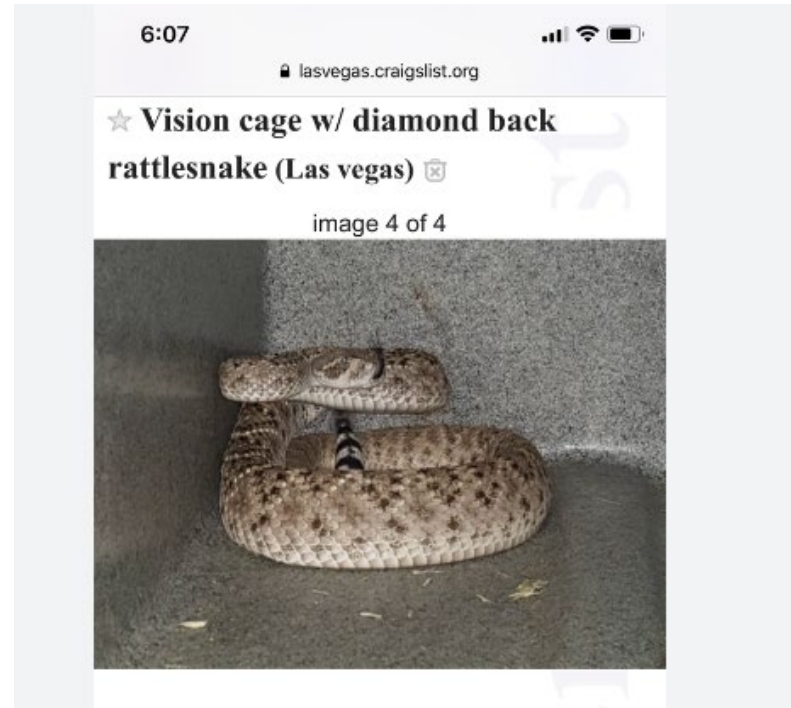
Washoe County Regional Animal Services

Exotic Animal Handling and Care

For the purposes of this training, exotic animals will be considered reptiles, amphibians, insects and arachnids that are commonly kept in the pet trade. This is not an inclusive list of animals, and you should be prepared to be surprised with what you may find in the field or at our shelter at any time!



The internet has made our job very interesting in the past two decades.



With websites like MorphMarket.com, FaunaClassifieds.com, Craigslist and Facebook, obtaining exotics animals is easier than ever

New Web Site Listings

- [Mouse Works LLC](#)
- [Zedler Animal Feeds](#)
- [Tampa Snakes - Carpet Python](#)
- [The Big Cheese Rodent Facto...](#)
- [Florida Iguana & Tortoise B...](#)
- [ReptiLinks](#)
- [Reptiles at the York Expo](#)
- [York County Reptile Show](#)
- [LL Reptile and Supply Las V...](#)
- [Eublah Exotics](#)
- last your web site

Updated Web Site Listings

- [Florida Iguana & Tortoise B...](#)
- [California Zoological Suppl...](#)
- [The Bean Farm](#)
- [Nature Zone Herp Products](#)
- [Animal Specialties](#)
- [Maellan Explorer](#)
- [Mouse Works LLC](#)
- [Zedler Animal Feeds](#)
- [Tampa Snakes - Carpet Python](#)
- [ReptiLinks](#)
- last your web site as updated

Updated Classified Vendors

- ss_exotics
- The reptile depot
- Cold Blooded Sensations
- locally1934
- Northwest Zoological Supply, LLC
- New York Worms
- Rodentpro.com
- a101
- Mark Kennedy Reptiles
- reptilexpress
- Classified Vendor Directory
- update your vendor profile

General Herp Ads

- Trades & Barter
- Retail Stores
- International Ads, Import/Export
- Wholesale/Commercial Dealers
- Employment
- Parties, Removal, Tours, & Services
- Wanted
- Web Site Announcements
- Web Site Designers

Caging and Accessories

- Artorial & Free Standing Cages
- Breeder Rack Systems & Tubs
- Terrariums, Vivariums, & Habitats
- Trade Show Displays & Graphics
- Heating Pads, Tapes & Other Heating
- Basking Lights & Other Lighting
- Environmental Controls & Monitoring
- Incubators & Husbandry Supplies
- Bowls, Mist & Watering Systems

Supplies and Dry Goods

- Art, Apparel, Collectibles & Gifts
- Books, Publications, & Videos
- Supplies, Bedding & Accessories
- Plastic Cups & Shipping Supplies
- Field & Handling Equipment
- Package Deals/Complete Setups
- Prepared Foods
- Live & Frozen Feeders
- Medications & Supplements

Pythons

- Ball Pythons
- Green Tree Pythons
- Carpet & Diamond Pythons
- Reticulated Pythons
- Blood, Burmese, & Other Pythons

Boas

- Boa Constrictors
- Rosy, Sand, & Rubber Boas
- Tree Boas
- Rainbow & Other Boas

Colubrids

- Kingsnakes
- Milk Snakes
- Gray-Banded Kingsnakes
- Rat Snakes
- Corn Snakes
- Bull, Pine, & Gopher Snakes
- Hognose Snakes
- Other Colubrid Snakes

Venomous

- Venomous Snakes
- Rear-Fanged Snakes
- Gilas & Beaded Lizards
- Spiders & Other Inverts

Crocodyllians

- Alligators, Caimans, Crocs

Lizards

- Crested & Rhacodactylus Geckos
- Day Geckos
- Leopard Geckos
- Other Geckos
- Bearded Dragons
- Chameleons
- Iguanas
- Monitors & Tegus
- Other Lizards

Amphibians

- Dart & Mantella Frogs
- Horned, Pacman & Pixie Frogs
- Tree Frogs
- Other Frogs & Toads
- Salamanders, Nevi's & Caecilians

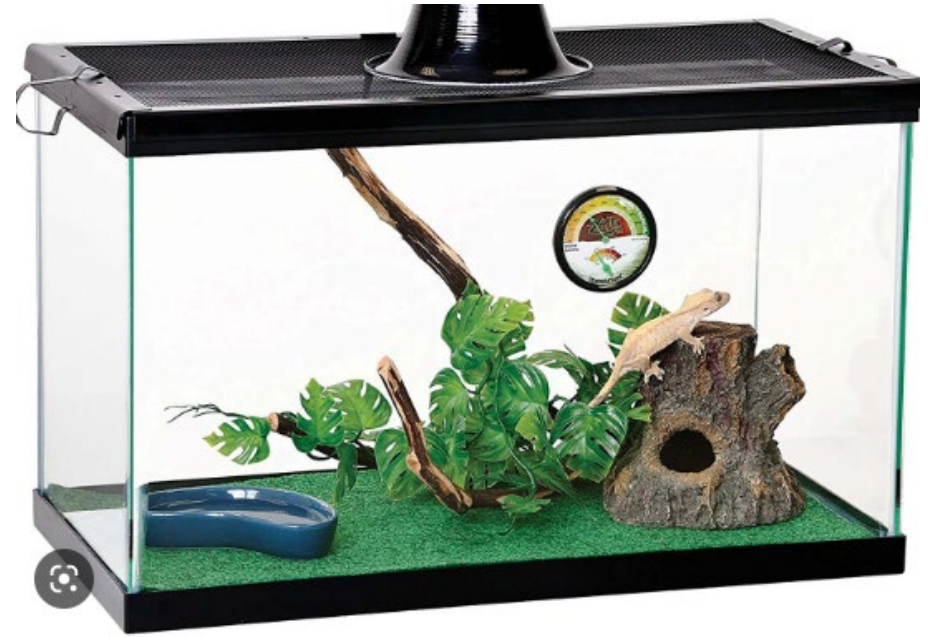
Turtles & Tortoises

- Tortoises
- Aquatic Turtles
- Box Turtles

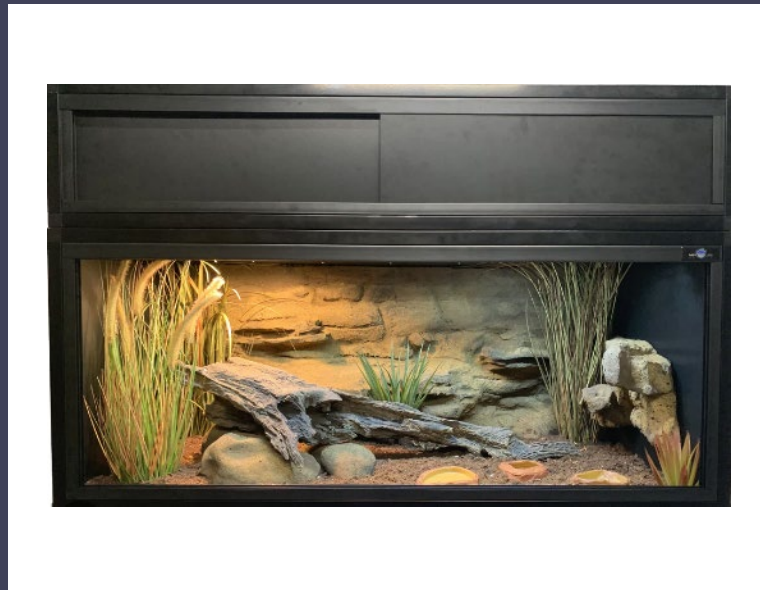
Other Pets

- Insects, Spiders, & Inverts
- Small Pets & Supplies
- Birds, Toys, & Aviary Supplies
- Fish, Coral, & Aquariums
- Cat Toys, Food, & Supplies
- Dog Toys, Food, & Supplies
- Farm Animals & Supplies
- Ponds & Water Gardens

Test Post / Practice Ads



Common types of housing you will see in people's homes





Many animals like to burrow or camouflage, so just because you don't see something, doesn't mean the enclosure is empty

Use caution when handling these animals. Use proper PPE and take precautions to keep yourself and the animals safe

- Many exotic animals can harm you in more ways than just biting. You need to be aware that large snakes can constrict you, venomous snakes can envenomate you, lizards and crocodilians can harm you with their teeth, nails and tail, amphibians can secrete toxins from poison glands and some tarantulas can flick urticating hairs that can affect your vision and breathing.
- Did you know that scientists are discovering that more and more monitor lizards have venom glands? If they bite you, they will lacerate your skin while also blending venom into their saliva.





Inflammation from urticating hairs of a tarantula



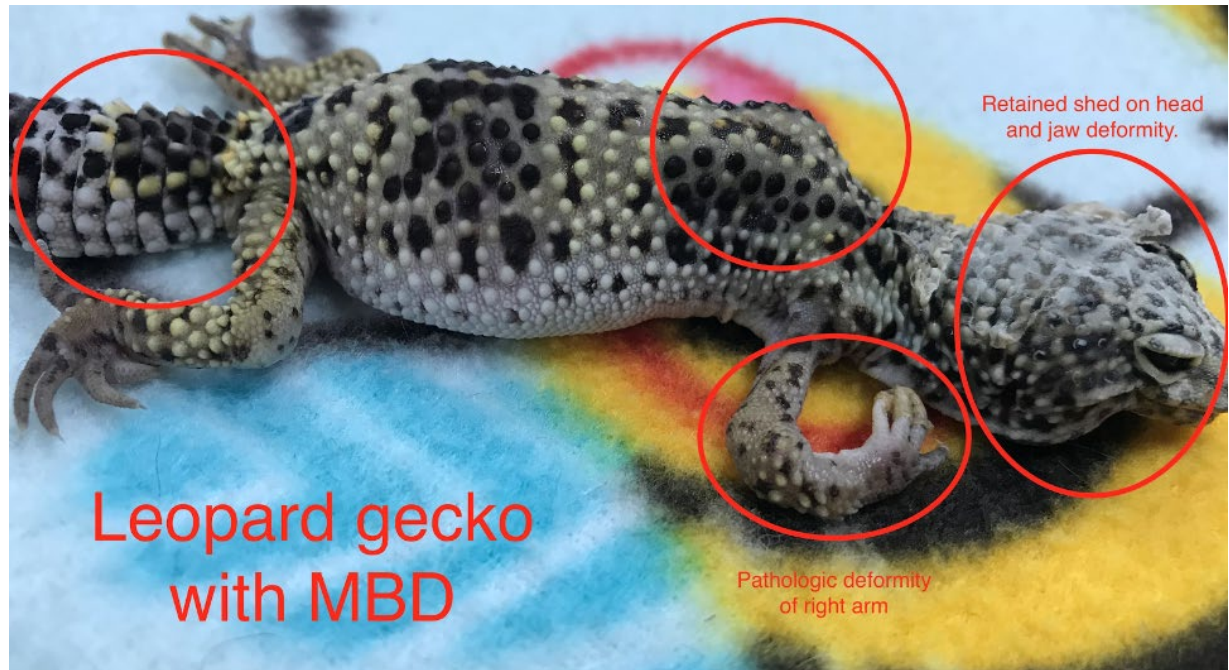
Teeth from a crocodile monitor







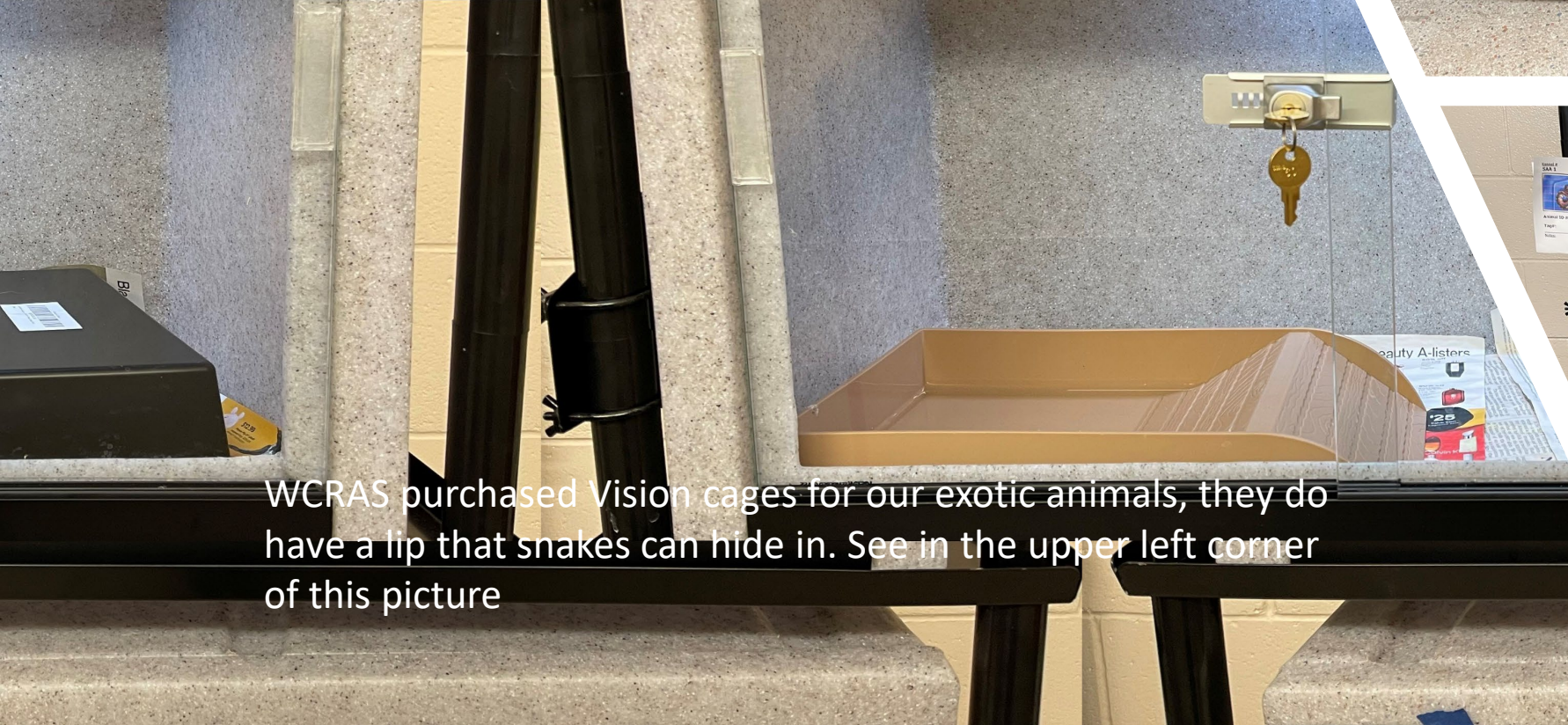
Diseases and injuries







Cages already set up and ready. They will be stocked with water, hide spots and either heat pads or heat lights ready to go



WCRAS purchased Vision cages for our exotic animals, they do have a lip that snakes can hide in. See in the upper left corner of this picture



Feeding and Nutrition



Snakes: Mice, rats, or rabbits

Bearded Dragons: Dark leafy greens, veggies, insects

Iguanas: Dark leafy greens, veggies, fruit

Tegus: Small rodents, fruit, eggs, insects

Monitors: Insects, eggs, small rodents

Geckos: Primarily insects, some fruit



- There are commercial diets available for many species, but some animals will refuse to eat them. Fresh food is best!

- Most lizards will require a mineral/calcium supplement (+D3). Lack of calcium can lead to Metabolic Bone Disease.

- Remember, a cold reptile can't properly digest their food!

