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Turtle aquarium kit petco

Numerous outbreaks of salmonella infections linked to small domestic turtles have drew sharp warnings from state health officials and an unusual offer from a leading pet retailer: Bring them back here. Petko, the pet products chain, has launched a turtle release program aimed at curbing disease and giving rejected reptiles new homes. Don Birch, Petco's veterinary relations manager, said the company began taking wayward turtles in May, just before the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began warning of the growing number of salmonella infections associated with aquatic creatures. As of last week, 219 people in 34 states had been contaminated by six overlapping salmonella outbreaks found in small turtles sold in souvenir shops and at street fairs, KKK officials said. The infections were caused by three rare strains of salmonella: Sandiego, Pomona and Pona. We saw this concern through the CDC and thought: How can we help in this situation? Burch said. So far, 111 people in 10 states have taken Petko to the offer and returned the turtles, usually red shelled, that measure less than 4 inches. People who want to participate can simply take the turtles to the nearest store. Although the CDC's warning applies to the smallest turtles, Petco will accept turtles of any size, Burch said. Petko has an agreement to send the turtles to concordia turtle farm in Jonesville, La., which hatches, raises and sells turtles in the U.S. and abroad. Daisy DeWitt, a farm employee, said turtles are treated for signs of salmonella and then placed in clean reservoirs where they thrive. About three million to four million slides are exported from the U.S. each year, including many sent to foreign countries where they are

considered pets - and sometimes as delicacies to eat, according to a turtle protection group called the Tortoise Trust.Taking turtles out of the hands of young children - literally - is the CDC's main concern, said Lola, said Lola, a spokeswoman for the agency. Salmonella infections have been detected in six separate but overlapping outbreaks dating from June 2011 to the end of September. Thirty-six people were hospitalized; no deaths were reported. Two-thirds of those sick in the outbreak were children under the age of 10; According to the CDC report, 30% of those who fell ill were babies under 1 years old. Infection usually occurs when young children handle turtles or related objects and then put their hands in their mouths. Half of the sick are Hispanic, said officials who issued warnings in Spanish and English.Small turtles are a well-known source of salmonella infections, especially in children. is so strong, the Food and Drug Administration banned the sale and distribution of turtles in shells less than 4 inches wide in 1975.However, this, small turtles still continue to show up in souvenir shops, flea markets and street fairs, where the risk of salmonella contamination persists. Many people don't know that turtles and other reptiles can carry microbes that can make people very ill, Casey Barton Bevresh, a veterinarian and deputy head of the KTC's outbreak control and prevention branch, said in a statement. For this reason, turtles and other reptiles may not be the best pets for your family, especially if there are children 5 years and younger or people with weakened immune systems living in your home. Symptoms of salmonella include diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps. Most people recover within a few days, but some people - especially the young, very old and those with weak immune systems - get very ill and may require hospitalization. CDC officials are aware of petco turtle redemption program, but they have no formal agreement with the company, Russell said. We do not support any particular program, she said. But we recommend that children under 5 years of age do not cope with these turtles. Related stories: stories:

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