



ALLIGATORS:

It is illegal to feed alligators because feeding them makes them unafraid of us. It also causes them to associate people with food, turning people into a food source.

Alligators play a crucial role for the other wildlife in the area. As water begins to recede during the dry winter months, the gator holes they build retain water.

Spring, during April – May, is mating season.

Fall, August – September, are busy months as hatchlings start to come forth. Female alligators stay with and care for their nests to protect the eggs from predators.



The **Bufo Toad** (*Bufo marinus*) (also known as **marine toad** , **giant toad**, **cane toad**) is a huge brown to grayish-brown **toad** with a creamy yellow belly and deeply-pitted parotoid glands extending down the back. Adult giant **toads** generally range in size from 6 to 9in



MALE = LEFT
FEMALE = RIGHT

Toad venom toxicity is relatively common in dogs. Being natural predators, it is common for dogs to catch toads in their mouths, thereby coming into contact with the toad's toxin, which the toad releases when it feels threatened. This highly toxic defense chemical is most often absorbed through the oral cavity membrane, but it may also enter the eyes, causing vision problems. Its effects are lethal if not treated immediately.

The two most important species of toad that are known for their toxic effects on pets are the Colorado River Toad (*Bufo alvarius*) and the Marine Toad (*Bufo marinus*).

Pets typically come into contact with the Bufo toads during the very early morning hours, or after evening has set. These toads are omnivorous, eating both living creatures, such as insects and small rodents, and non-living food, such as pet food that has been left outdoors. Because of the latter, pets will often come into contact with these amphibians as they are eating from the animal's food dish. It is for this reason that it is recommended that pet food not be left outside in areas where Bufo toads live.



New Guinea flatworms

Officials advise people not to touch the worms because they carry a highly toxic deadly parasite.

They look like slugs, about 2 inches on average in length, They're a dark worm with a dorsal orange stripe down the center of their back. The mouth is on the belly.

The worm eats snails and are often found in gardens.

If you see these worms, take photos, then contact FWC at 888-IVE-GOT1

You can them kill the worms by pouring boiling water on them.