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## Pet Interaction

Do not kiss your pet around its mouth and do not let your pet lick your face. This is especially important after your pet has just finished eat raw food.

Thoroughly wash your hands after touching or being licked by your pet.



**Consumers can take steps to help prevent foodborne illness, including Salmonella-related illness, when handling pet foods and treats. These products, like many other types of foods, can be susceptible to harmful bacterial contamination.**



### For more information:

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Association of American Feed Control Officials

[www.aafco.org](http://www.aafco.org)

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### Additional Information:

Georgia Department of Agriculture

Plant Industry - Agriculture Inputs

19 Martin Luther King Jr Dr

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Telephone: 404-656-4958



## Safe Handling Tips & Tricks



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### Dry and Raw Pet Foods



No Matter What Type of Pet Food You Feed Your Pet, Always Follow These Safe Handling Tips & Tricks

Georgia Department of Agriculture

19 Martin Luther King Jr Dr

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

[www.agr.georgia.gov](http://www.agr.georgia.gov)

## Buying Pet Food

Purchase products in good condition, without signs of damage to the packaging, such as dents or tears.



## Preparation - Dry Pet Food

Wash your hands with hot water and soap before and after handling all pet foods and treats.

Wash pet food bowls, dishes, and scooping utensils with soap and hot water after each use.

Do not use the pet's feeding bowl as a scooping utensil, use a clean dedicated scoop or spoon.

Dispose of old or spoiled pet food products in a safe



## Preparation - Raw Pet Food

Wash your hands with hot water and soap before and after handling all raw pet food and after touching surfaces or objects that have come in contact with the raw food. Potential contaminated surfaces and objects include:

Countertops

Inside of refrigerators

Microwaves

Kitchen utensils

Feeding bowls

Cutting boards

Thoroughly clean and disinfect all surfaces and objects that come in contact with raw pet food

- First wash with hot soapy water or run items through the dishwasher, and then follow with a disinfectant.
  - A solution of 1 tablespoon bleach to 1 quart (4 cups) water is an effective disinfectant solution



## Storage - Dry Pet Food

Refrigerate promptly or discard any unused, leftover wet pet food.

Refrigeration of pet food should be followed according to the label on the product. It is always in the best interest of the consumer to follow the product label handling instructions, if possible.

Store dry pet food in its original bag inside a clean, dedicated plastic container with a lid, keeping the top of the bag folded closed. Keep pets away from food storage and preparation areas.

Keep pets away from garbage and household trash.



## Storage - Raw Pet Food

Freeze raw meat and poultry products until you are ready to use them. Thaw them in the refrigerator or microwave, not on your countertop or in your sink.

Carefully handle raw and frozen meat and poultry products.

Do not rinse raw meat, poultry, fish, or seafood as bacteria in the raw juices can splash and spread to other food and surfaces.

Keep raw food separate from other food.

Immediately cover and refrigerate what your pet does not eat, or throw the leftovers out safely.