

# ASK THE VET



*Now more than ever* there is a concern to reduce the transmission of viruses and bacteria between pets and their human house mates. Ferrets have respiratory systems that are similar to humans. Both ferrets and humans are susceptible to catching colds and flus.

*Please share the following helpful information with everyone that shares a space with your ferrets.*

## ISOLATE SYMPTOMS.

If a person has any symptoms of a cold, flu or respiratory infection, they should not be allowed to handle the ferrets or be around them until completely recovered. If a ferret is showing symptoms of being sick, isolate the ferret from the others in a smaller cage of their own and be sure to...

## WASH YOUR HANDS.

Everyone should be washing their hands or using hand sanitizer before and after handling ferrets or any pet. Especially during cold and flu season when transmission is common. Whether the human or the ferret has the symptoms, they can be passed. No nose kisses during this time!

## DISINFECT YOUR FERRET'S SPACE.

Ensure that all ferret habitats are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at least twice a week with a pet-friendly solution. A one to one solution of white vinegar and water is all you need. Wash any bedding, blankets and hammocks in an allergen-free laundry soap on the hottest setting. It is especially important to clean habitats before reintroducing a ferret that has been in isolation to the rest of the business. This will help decrease the probability of cross-contamination.

## MY FERRET IS SNEEZING! NOW WHAT?

Due to their sensitive respiratory systems, this could mean a number of things. Before you call the vet, make sure that you are using a dust-free litter like Marshall's Fresh & Clean Paper Towel Bedding & Litter, that your ferret's space is well ventilated, free of dust and not in a drafty area. If the ferret is sneezing, check for mucus from their nose or eyes. Contact your vet immediately if the discharge is yellow or green. The ferret may need an antibiotic.

## KEEP YOUR FERRET HEALTHY!

Any human or animal will fight bacteria and viral infections better with a superior immune system. Keep your ferret healthy from the inside out by feeding your ferret Marshall's Premium Ferret Diet and supplement with a high calorie vitamin supplement like Furo-Vite or Uncle Jim's Duk Soup. These supplements are also a great way to build up a ferret's health after the stress of an illness.



## WHAT IS MARSHALL FERRET RX?

Ferret Rx is homeopathic support for upper respiratory distress, colds, runny nose and nasal congestion. It helps to quickly open nasal passages and increase oxygen flow, alleviating runny noses, head congestion and labored breathing. We recommend that this is used in addition to any suggested care from a licensed vet.



## DID YOU KNOW?

From 1860 to the start of World War II, ferrets were widely used in the American West to protect grain stores from rodents.

