

## Snakes can make great pets

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### Community News

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Hockessin, Del. I support the proposed code change to allow for keeping and breeding of smaller wild and — exotic animals on less than one acre. These animals are small and harmless and don't pose any public safety risk. They most definitely don't need an acre of land and can in fact be kept in city apartments.

Unlike domesticated animals which are usually large, most commonly kept exotics are small and relatively easy to take care of.

The majority of exotics sold in pet market are captive bred and don't require as much space or attention as a dog would. Allergies are also less of a problem with pet reptiles than with a domestic cat. This makes small exotic animals a perfect pet for apartment dwellers or a child with allergies or asthma. Pet ownership also teaches kids about unconditional love and responsibility by caring for another creature.

The habitat of many wild and exotic animals is disappearing due to human encroachment, and the only way to save many species from extinction is through captive breeding. Since it is humans encroaching on their habitat, it is our responsibility to offer them an alternative habitat so they can survive into the next millennium.

Please support wildlife education and conservation by adopting the new code allowing for people on smaller acreages to keep their unusual animals.

**Zuzana Kukol**, *President, Responsible Exotic Animal Ownership*

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