The Salamander Chytrid Disease, which is caused by the pathogen *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (*Bs*)al), has spread from Asia to Europe where it has killed large numbers of salamanders and newts.

This disease now risks being spread to Canada, the US and Mexico where there are more native salamanders and newts than anywhere else in the world.

**Salamander Chytrid Disease**

**Other names: Chytridiomycosis, Bsal**

- Prevent introduction and movement of the disease
  - Do not release salamanders, newts or any other animals into the wild.
  - Do not touch or manipulate wild amphibians.
  - Wild salamanders should never be collected for pets or moved at all.

**At Home**

**Safe Pet Purchases & Care**
- Where do your pet salamanders or newts come from? Take appropriate precautions when purchasing amphibians and discuss Bsal with your pet shop staff.
- Neutralize cage wastewater before disposing of it: use bleach (1/4 to 1/2 cup per liter of water) and let stand for at least 10 minutes.

**Observe & Report**
- Check your pet amphibian for skin abnormalities (reddening, ulcers) or other signs of disease and contact your veterinarian when in doubt.
- Quarantine your abnormal pets to prevent contamination.

**In the Wild**

**Prevent introduction and movement of the disease**
- Do not release salamanders, newts or any other animals into the wild.
- Do not touch or manipulate wild amphibians.
- Wild salamanders should never be collected for pets or moved at all.

**Be aware in the outdoors**
- Contact the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC) National Office [1(306) 966-5099] if you observe a number of dead or sick wild salamanders or newts.
- Take close-up photographs of the amphibians and send them to the CWHC (national@cwhc-rcsf.ca).

**Follow this simple disinfection protocol when visiting wetlands:**
1. Wash your equipment (boats, boots and field gear) with soap and rinse with water (preferably hot tap water, if available). Do this at least 50 meters away from a water body.
2. Use a 5% bleach solution to disinfect: use 1 1/2 cups of bleach for 9% cups of water.
3. Rinse out the bleach with hot water (if available).
4. Let your equipment dry completely if you are done for the day.

**For more information**

- The Amphibian Survival Alliance and Amphibian Specialist Group: www.amphibians.org
- The Chytrid Disease website: www.salamanderfungus.org/about-bsal
- The Chytrid Disease Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/salamanderfungus
- The Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative website: www.cwhc-rcsf.ca

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Tips: Bsal is highly contagious to healthy salamanders and newts, so prevent introduction and movement of the disease through proper biosecurity practices when visiting wetlands.

**For more information:**

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