

Reptile Dysfunction.

Iguanas are filthy, disgusting creatures but that isn't why I hate them. I hate iguanas because they are assholes. They are not indigenous to the Florida Keys and they are a big nuisance if you ask me.

The scaly buggers eat my plants and poop on my dock. They are always in the road too. I don't know how many times I have swerved to avoid hitting one with my car. When I found out they bite and carry salmonella I started aiming for the little assholes. Haven't got one yet but just in case I do come across some decent road kill I purchased a healthy supply of Iguana Helper at the grocery store. It makes cooking them so much simpler. Yum yum yum! You too can get some.

Seriously, the strains of salmonella that iguanas carry can cause symptoms ranging from very mild to potentially lethal. Even mild strains can be deadly to humans who have compromised or immature immune systems: infants, toddlers, the elderly, anyone with a suppressed immune system due to illness, organ-transplant recipients receiving anti-rejection drugs, or cancer patients receiving chemotherapy.

Most instances of salmonella transmission from pets to humans take place because humans don't know that a risk exists. Knowing



about it and taking proper precautions can greatly reduce, but not completely eliminate, the risk. Fortunately, you can take precautions such as washing your hands before and after handling an iguana or better yet, wear gloves. Several years ago I had a friend that bought an iguana for her kids. It bit her and caused a very bad infection. She could have lost a finger or died!

All kinds of animals carry diseases that can be passed to humans. Reptiles are no exception. Most, if not all, reptiles carry salmonella, which can cause serious illness, hospitalization, even death, in humans, despite the reptile appearing to be perfectly healthy. If you have or are planning to have babies or have or work with young children or other

at-risk humans, you may want to rethink

getting an iguana for a pet. If you do purchase one as a pet and later find it is not for you please do not let it go, cook it instead!

Thoroughly cooking iguana meat can most likely get rid of the salmonella however, if the iguana you are chomping at the bit to grill looks sickly, it's probably best to wait till a better looking one comes along.

Stock up on some Iguana Helper with compliments of the Coconut Telegraph. If your local grocer doesn't have it in stock ask them to please order it and be sure to get a rain check.

These days when the little assholes poop on my dock I don't go into shock. I get out my pooper scooper and make some delicious iguana poop soup. It tastes like chicken!



Trying to look innocent.

NEW! Iguana Helper
FREE SNACK SIZE

TAKE THIS COUPON TO YOUR LOCAL SUPERMARKET AND DEMAND THEY STOCK THIS PRODUCT! DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS PROTEIN-RICH RECIPE POPULAR IN ALL THE TROPICAL CLIMATES. NOW THAT IT'S SO EASY TO PREPARE. KEEP SEVERAL BOXES ON THE SHELF TO COMBAT IGUANA INVASIONS IN YOUR YARD! AND THE BONUS? YOU MIGHT ACTUALLY HAVE SOME VEGETABLES LEFT IN YOUR GARDEN TO SERVE WITH IT!



Limit one per customer, must present coupon. Offer ends 4/1/2016.



Iguana Rid

One spray keeps iguanas away!
Ready to Use Long Lasting
Eco-Friendly Non-Toxic

HELPS PROTECT:

Plants, Trees, Flowers & Shrubs from Iguanas, squirrels, rabbits, and garden pests such as mealy bugs, beetles, white flies, thrips, leaf-chewers, aphids, spider mites, snails and more.

Spray IGUANA-RID thoroughly in all areas where Iguanas bask, feed, or have caused damage to flowers or plants. Spray on decks or docks where feces is found, and any other areas where control is desired. Iguana-Rid is not harmful, and works by producing an odor and taste which is disagreeable to Iguanas and many other garden pests. Reapplication is recommended every 3 to 5 weeks.

On sale at Ebay. Seriously!



Downtown Key Largo Readies for 4th Annual Songfest Columbus Day Weekend

This three-day event is a unique opportunity for music lovers to enjoy songs as well as "the story behind the song"—how and why they got written. Songfest was created by Robert DiGiorgio, owner of DiGiorgio's Café Largo and Bayside Grille. The Festival is sponsored by the Key Largo Downtown Association, and in 2015 takes place at three fabulous waterfront venues in Downtown Key Largo, representing some of the best of what the area has to offer.

Mark your calendar for Columbus Day weekend—October 9th to 11th. This year's singer-songwriter line-up includes Mark Bryan, founding member and lead guitarist of Hootie & The Blowfish. We also have returning, Nashville songwriter Jon Nite, hot off his 4th #1 single "Smoke" with country band, 1000 Horses. Speaking of #1 writers from Nashville... new to the Festival this year is Jim McCormick, writer of two recent number one hits: Brantley Gilbert's "You Don't Know Her Like I Do," and Jason Aldean's "Take A Little Ride."

Returning as well is Grammy nominee, Greg Barnhill, famous for his incomparable hit song for Trisha Yearwood, "Walk Away Joe."

"New blood" this year is Bob Regan—one of Nashville's most successful and beloved writers. Bob's

also a Grammy nominee as well as a Dove award nominee (Christian music "Grammy"). Bob's songwriting credits include two #1s, six top-5, and eleven top-20 country hit songs (at last count!). Regan is a past President of the Board, and past legislative chair, of the Nashville Songwriters Association International. In 2006, he helped pass the Songwriters Capital Gains Tax Equity Act. He is currently the director of Operation Song, a program which brings songwriters together with veterans and active duty military to help them turn their stories into songs.

Ralph Murphy joins us again too. A performer at Songfest in the past, Ralph's bio is almost impossible to condense: he has had #1 hits as both a writer and publisher. Artists from all genres, and all over the world, have cut Ralph's tunes (even Shania Twain!). Ralph's been in bands, had label deals as a band member, produced artists, and worked for ASCAP for many years as a writer rep and traveling ambassador to the music world teaching innumerable songwriters what makes a song a hit (which knowledge he has distilled into an amazing book titled Murphy's Laws of Songwriting).

Songfest's "field" this year is rounded out by a true member of the Nashville "musical family"—Amanda Williams. Fresh off

her latest cut on Garth Brooks' comeback album ("She's Tired of Boys"), Amanda learned songwriting from a unique perspective. Her daddy Kim Williams, wrote such memorable hits as "Ain't Going Down 'Til The Sun Comes Up," "Beer Run," "Three Wooden Crosses" and the list goes on and on!

The organizers are also pleased this year to have a singer-songwriter sent from the European country full of hit makers—through an arrangement with the Swedish government—Rebecka Digerwall, an artist getting

a great deal on attention in her home country as well as the US.

Finally, Bud Tower, co-founder of Key Largo Songfest will do a special Sunday evening show with Hootie & The Blowfish founding member Mark Bryan (did we mention Mr. Bryan co-wrote all of Hootie's massive hit songs?) and Drew Young—songwriter, artist, producer, publisher, college music professor, and all-around music industry guy. Drew will as well play shows Friday and Saturday night. See below for the schedule.



FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY:

October 9-10-11

Bayside Grille, Pilot House, and Key Largo Fisheries host a group of professional songwriters at three different venues simultaneously.

Key Largo Downtown Association:
The mission of Key Largo Downtown Association Inc. is to foster a vibrant commercial and cultural district with strategic capital improvements, enhanced maintenance and security, effective marketing and promotions, historic preservation, education, and effective administration.
www.keylargodowntown.com

SCHEDULE	
Showtimes Run 7-10pm	
 Bayside Grill 99530 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo, FL 305-451-3380 Friday, October 9 Mark Bryan Jim McCormick Jon Nite Saturday, October 10 Ralph Murphy Jon Nite Amanda Williams Sunday, October 11 Mark Bryan • Bud Tower • Drew Young	 The Pilot House 13 Seagate Blvd. Key Largo, FL 305-451-3142 Friday, October 9 Rebecka Digerwall Amanda Williams Drew Young Saturday, October 10 Greg Barnhill Mark Bryan Bob Regan
 Key Largo Fisheries 1313 Ocean Bay Drive, Key Largo, FL 305-451-3784 Friday, October 9 Greg Barnhill Ralph Murphy Bob Regan Saturday, October 10 Rebecka Digerwall Jim McCormick Drew Young	Key Largo Backyard Cafe *Schedule subject to change without notice