



GEORGIA POISON CENTER

WARNING! IT'S SNAKEBITE SEASON

It's snakebite season and the Georgia Poison Center (GPC) is warning people to watch their step and pay close attention while enjoying outdoor activities. As temperatures increase snakes become more active. Here are a few tips to keep you and your family safe:

What snakes are poisonous?

Of the 46 species of snakes known in Georgia, only six species are venomous: Copperhead, Cottonmouth, Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Timber/Canebrake Rattlesnake, Pigmy Rattlesnake and Eastern Coral Snake.



Copperhead



Cottonmouth



Timber/Canebrake
Rattlesnake



Pigmy Rattlesnake



Eastern Diamondback
Rattlesnake



Eastern Coral Snake

How to prevent a snakebite:

- Avoid places where snakes may live
- Watch where you step
- Never pick up a snake
- Wear appropriate attire
- If you see a snake, stay away

DO's:

- Keep still and stay calm
- Remove all jewelry and tight clothing
- Note the color and shape of the snake and what time the bite happened
- Wash the bite with soap and water and cover the bite with a clean, dry dressing
- Call the GPC at 1-800-222-1222

DON'Ts:

- DO NOT pick up the snake or try to trap it
- DO NOT apply a tourniquet or attempt to restrict blood flow to the affected area
- DO NOT cut the wound
- DO NOT attempt to suck out the venom
- DO NOT apply heat, cold, electricity or any substance to the bite
- DO NOT drink alcohol or caffeinated beverages
- DO NOT take any drugs or medicines

For more information call the Georgia Poison Center 1-800-222-1222

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