



WILDLIFE ENCOUNTERS, LLC

**Limiting Snake and Human
Conflict through Education**



K2C Wildlife Encounters, LLC is able to serve the northern VA area from Fredericksburg north, and west to Fauquier and Loudoun Counties.

We are volunteers that will respond to calls about snakes and other reptiles, hornets and yellow jackets, spiders, amphibians, and some other small animals. We are wildlife enthusiasts first, and wildlife control operators second. We approach each situation with both the environment and safety in mind.

In addition to consulting about wildlife, we are also educational presenters. K2C Wildlife Encounters, LLC can offer a variety of presentations for all ages. We focus on the reptiles in VA but can also provide programs on other wildlife topics

www.k2cwildlife.com



Services: Educational Programs, Immediate On-Site Snake Relocation, Interior Home Sweeps, Exterior Home Inspection & Consultation, Attics, Crawl Space, & Garage Inspections and Trapping



“We are wildlife enthusiasts first, and wildlife control operators second”

Begins with Education

Virginia Snake General Info:

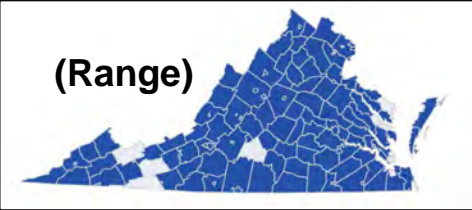
Virginia is home to 34 species of Snakes

3 of the 34 are Venomous Pit-vipers

- Timber Rattlesnake
- Northern Cottonmouth
- Eastern Copperhead



Eastern Copperhead (Venomous)



Pit Viper

Average Life span: 15 - 18 Years

Average Length: 24 – 36 inches

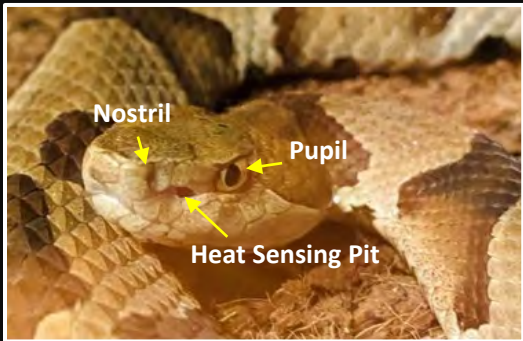
Virginia Record Length: 48 inches

Venom Type: Mild Hemotoxin

Baby Season... mid August – early October



Know the Patterns



Mimic's





Copperheads
are experts at
Camouflage



Copperhead
fangs retract
from upper jaw



Copperhead
neonate
compared to
quarter



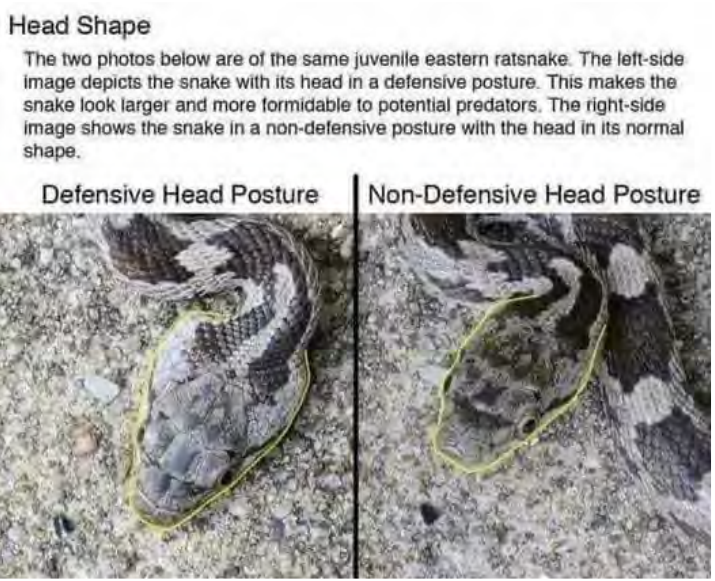
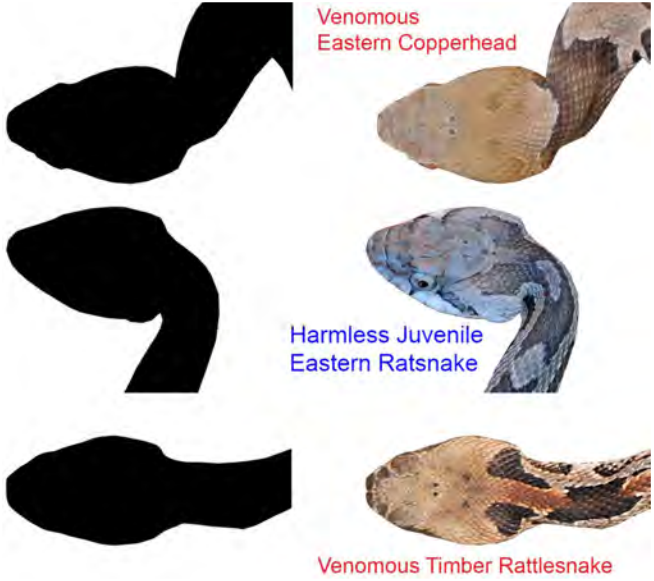
Copperheads
are born live
wrapped in an
embryo sack

**Can you locate
the 3 Eastern
Copperheads?**



Identifying a Venomous Snake by Head Shape and Eye Pupils

Using a snake's head shape and/or Eye Pupil is an unreliable method for determining whether a snake is venomous or not. Know the Pattern!



Snake Venom for Medical Purposes

A close-up photograph of a snake's head and front body as it drinks water from a clear glass. The snake's tongue is visible, dipping into the water. The background is blurred, showing a person's hand holding the glass. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the snake's scales.

Venom and its properties are currently being used to treat conditions such as:

- Hypertension
- Heart Conditions
- Blood Clots
- Chronic Pain
- Diabetes
- Some Cancers

New Research:

- Strokes
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Prostate Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- HIV
- Multiple Sclerosis

Venomous Snakebite Information



- Roughly 8,000 people are bitten by venomous snakes each year in the US with a small percent being fatal
- In contrast, 20,000 people die every year from the side effects of aspirin.
- Most venomous snake bites occur when untrained individuals try to pick them up, try to remove them, or try to kill them.
- If bitten, you should NOT try to kill the snake and bring it with you. However, It is a good idea to take a picture of the snake so it can be accurately identified.
- Venomous snake bites are immediate medical emergencies, and they can be deadly if not treated quickly.

If bitten by a venomous snake in Virginia:

- DO NOT become over-exerted
- DO NOT apply a tourniquet
- DO NOT apply a cold compress
- DO NOT cut into the bite with a knife
- DO NOT try to suck the venom out by mouth
- DO NOT take any medications

Protects with Intervention



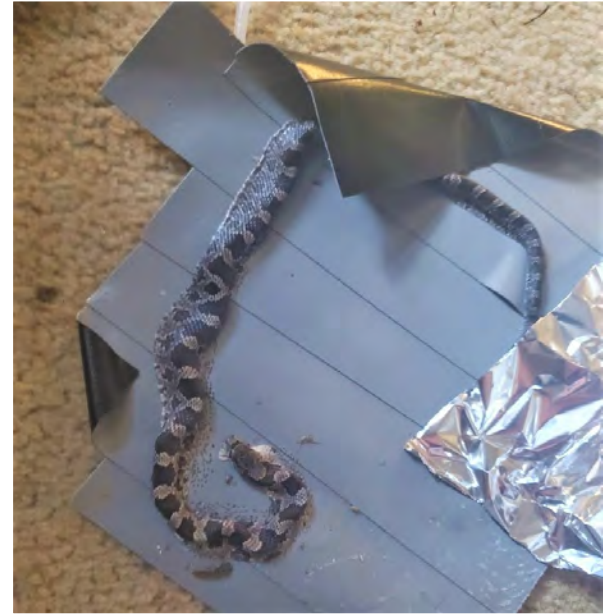
Why Glue Traps are not a Good Idea!



Northern Ring-neck Snakes



Northern Black Racer (Juvenile)



Eastern Ratsnake (Juvenile)



Why Garden Netting is not a Good Idea!



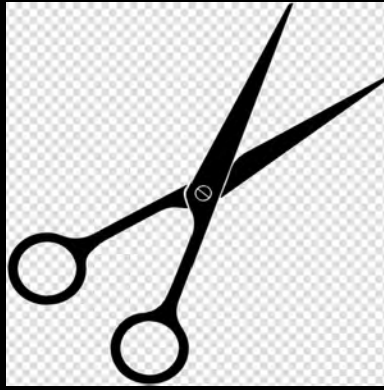
Eastern Copperhead



Eastern Ratsnake



Eastern Ratsnake



Releasing Process



Using mothballs outside is considered illegal according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Do Moth Balls Keep Snakes Away?



Moth Balls are a danger to the environment, other wildlife and humans, especially children.



Are there any products that will keep snakes away from my house that is support by research data?

Don't Waste Your Money!

Snake Best Practices

Things you can do to “Limit” snakes from coming onto your property...

- Mow your grass often and keep it short
- Avoid (or limit) watering your lawn
- Keep trees and landscape trimmed
- Relocate the bird feeder away from house
- Install a perch pole for predators to use
- Feed pets inside
- Relocate wood, brush and compost piles away from house
- Think before you landscape (koi ponds, water features, using mulch, large rocks)
- Seal up cracks in foundation, under sidewalks and porches
- Use of water hose
- Fencing Options

Succeeds with **Sustainability**

Encountering a Snake on your Property:



What should I do?

- Identify the snake species to ensure that it is not venomous.
- Leave it alone, eventually the snake will move on.
- Use a non-sharp tool to discourage or help the snake move on.
- Use a water hose if available to spray and deter the snake away.
- If these options do not work, call an expert to have the snake removed properly.

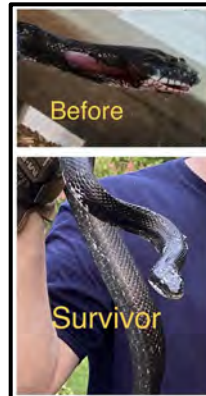
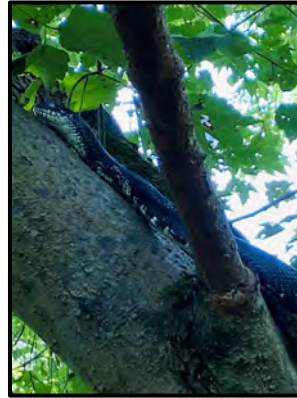
What NOT to do?

- NEVER kill a snake!
- It is **illegal** to kill a snake in the state of Virginia.
- Killing a snake does not keep more snake away.
- Do not keep a wild snake as a pet; keep wildlife in the wild where it belongs!

Snake Sustainability

Never give up!

The snake pictured below was found in a trash bag next to a customer trash can. The snake had been stomped multiple times, causing a torn jugular vein, a hole in her trachea, a protruding eye, several lacerations and broken ribs.





Rehabilitation Support



Animal Education and Rescue
Organization – Keeping Virginia
Wildlife Wild (aeroanimalrescue.org)

(703) 493 -0554 (text preferred)



***Protecting and conserving native
wildlife by integrating veterinary
medicine, rehabilitation, public
education, professional training, and
research.***

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g (e mail preferred)

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Questions?