

Safety-Gram

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SNAKES



Each year, nearly 8,000 people receive poisonous snake bites in the United States.

Even a bite from a so-called “harmless” snake can cause infection or allergic reaction in some people. If a person is bitten, call for emergency assistance immediately. Responding quickly is crucial. While waiting for emergency assistance:

1. Wash the bite with soap and water;
2. Immobilize the bitten area and keep it lower than the heart;
3. Cover the area with a clean cool compress or a moist dressing;
4. Monitor vital signs.

If a victim is unable to reach medical care within 30 minutes, apply a bandage, wrapped 2 to 4 inches above the bite to help slow the venom. The bandage should be loose enough to slip a finger under it.

Many people are bitten because they try to kill or get too close to a snake **“Leave’m Alone!”**

Rattlesnakes, Copperheads, Water Moccasins and Coral snakes are common to Oklahoma.

“Leave’m Alone!”