

## Copperhead & Cottonmouths



Broad-banded Copperhead



Trans-Pecos Copperhead



Southern Copperhead



Western Cottonmouth

## Coral Snakes



Coral snake symptoms may be delayed for 10-12 hours. If it is likely that the bite is from a coral snake, the victim should be taken to the hospital for observation and treatment.

## Pit Vipers



Timber Rattlesnake



Mojave Rattlesnake

## Symptoms

### Mild Envenomation

- Fang marks, usually paired but not always
- Mild to severe pain
- Mild inflammation and swelling
- No systemic symptoms

### Moderate Envenomation

- Fang marks with swelling
- Immediate pain at bite site & spreading to surrounding tissue
- Blood and/serum may ooze from fang punctures
- Vomiting, metallic taste in mouth
- Muscle twitches or tremors

### Severe Envenomation

- Immediate, severe pain at bite site
- Oozing of serum & blood from fang punctures
- Rapid swelling, some bruising
- Metallic taste, numb lips, nose, or tongue
- Blurred vision, altered mental state
- Shock, diffuse, or life-threatening internal bleeding
- Respiratory difficulty
- Kidney failure\_

## First Aid

- **Seek medical attention.**
- Remain calm.
- Remove any rings or constricting items because the affected area may swell.
- If possible, wash the bite with soap and water and cover with a clean cloth or dressing.
- Immobilize the bitten area.
- Keep the bitten limb level with the heart.
  
- NEVER cut the skin.
- NEVER attempt to suck the venom out.
- NEVER use ice.
- NEVER use a tourniquet.
- NEVER use aspirin, anti-inflammatory drugs or alcohol.
- NEVER use electric shock.
- NEVER try to capture the snake.

**Call the Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222 for more instructions.**



### Black Widow

#### Symptoms:

- Pin prick bite
- Tingling sensation
- Muscle & abdominal cramping
- Nausea, vomiting & weakness
- Difficult breathing

#### First Aid:

- Benadryl® by mouth
- **Seek medical attention immediately**



### Brown Recluse

#### Symptoms:

- Stinging sensation
- Painful bite site after 6-8 hours
- Pale circle with red spot
- Hot bite site
- Fever
- Joint pain
- Nausea & vomiting

#### First Aid:

- Apply cool packs
- **Seek medical attention immediately**

### Scorpion

#### Symptoms:

- Multiple stings
- Local burning
- Swelling
- Numbness
- Nausea & vomiting
- Irregular heart beat
- Blood pressure change
- Blurred vision
- Difficulty swallowing

#### First Aid:

- Cool packs
- Topical medication
- Benadryl® by mouth
- **Seek medical attention immediately for face numbness or a metallic taste in the mouth.**



## Southwest Center

FOR AGRICULTURAL HEALTH,  
INJURY PREVENTION,  
AND EDUCATION

# Bites Stings & Venomous Things

"The Dangerous Dozen"

Venomous critter  
identification, sting symptoms  
& wound first aid for  
Arkansas, Louisiana,  
New Mexico, Oklahoma & Texas



### Bees

#### Symptoms:

- Multiple stings
- Painful sting

#### First Aid:

- Remove stinger
- Wash wound
- Apply topical cream containing antihistamines, corticosteroids, benzocaine or menthol
- Or, apply baking soda paste



### Wasps

#### Symptoms:

- Painful sting

#### First Aid:

- Wash wound
- Apply topical cream containing antihistamines, corticosteroids, benzocaine or menthol
- Apply baking soda paste