

Bites and Stings

It's getting warm weather so be aware of all the little critters coming out. Here are some facts to help:



Snake Bites:

Each year in the U.S. about 45,000 people are bitten by snakes, 7,500 of them by venomous snakes. Amazingly, fewer than a dozen Americans die each year from this.

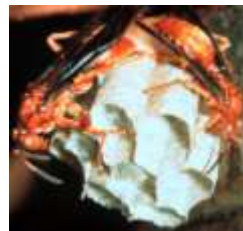
There are only 4 kinds of snakes in the US that are poisonous & they all live here in MS: copperhead, water moccasin (cotton mouth), rattlesnake, & coral snake. You can tell they are poisonous by their flat triangular shaped heads.

To avoid a snake bite:

- Watch where you step when walking, especially in the woods, thick brush, and around ponds/creeks.
- Don't mess with them if you see one
- Don't handle a dead venomous snake . The reflex action of the jaw can still inflict a wound 20 minutes or more after the snake is dead.

If you are bit by a snake:

- Try to stay calm & walk slowly to help
- Get to a hospital immediately; anti-venom must be given within 4 hrs of the bite.



Insect Stings:

- Look for stinger embedded in skin. (Bees are the only insects that leave their stingers behind.) If not removed, it will continue to inject poison for 2-3 minutes. Scrap it away with a credit card; squeezing will cause it to inject more venom.
- Wash area with soap & water
- Apply ice to slow venom absorption & relieve pain
- Observe victim for 30 minutes for signs of an allergic reaction

*** If you see a wasp nest, get some spray from the warehouse and kill them!***