WHY WE CARE

WSBTV-Atlanta projected 2024 to be a record year for venomous snake bites in Georgia. In one week alone in March, the Georgia Poison Control Center said four people were hospitalized from a snake bite, including a two-year-old child.

#3 Georgia ranks third in the U.S. in venomous snake bites per year.

53% of snake bites are from Copperheads, the most common poisonous snake in Georgia.

45% of snake bites happen to children under the age of 17.

DID YOU KNOW?
Snakes usually only bite when provoked, like when a child accidentally steps on it.

HOW TO PLAY IT SAFE

DO

- CALL the national Poison Center (from anywhere in the U.S), 800-222-1222.
- VISIT georgiapoisoncenter.org for free online chat. They have translators, too!
- GO get it checked out
- Offer an over-the-counter pain reliever.
- Remove any jewelry, clothing or other items on the extremity with the wound.

DON’T

- Try to capture or kill the snake.
- Apply a tourniquet or restrict blood flow.
- Cut open the wound.
- Attempt to suck venom from the wound.
- Apply heat or cold to the bite.
- Elevate the wound if it’s on an extremity; try to keep it level with the heart.
- Give your child anything to eat or drink and head to the ED.

Give them the Toolkit sheet for Parents and Caregivers—and point out the sections on Safety Tips and Dos and Don’ts.

For data sources and additional information visit gaaap.org

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