

Common Poisonous Plants & Animals



Conservation Branch
2023 Safety Topic



Poison Ivy



Poison Ivy Rash



First Aid

- Plant recognition is first line of defense.
- Ointments and creams to relieve itching and rash.
- Spotted jewel weed juice relieves the itching, stops the spread, and helps heal the rash.

Spotted Jewel Weed



Stinging Nettle



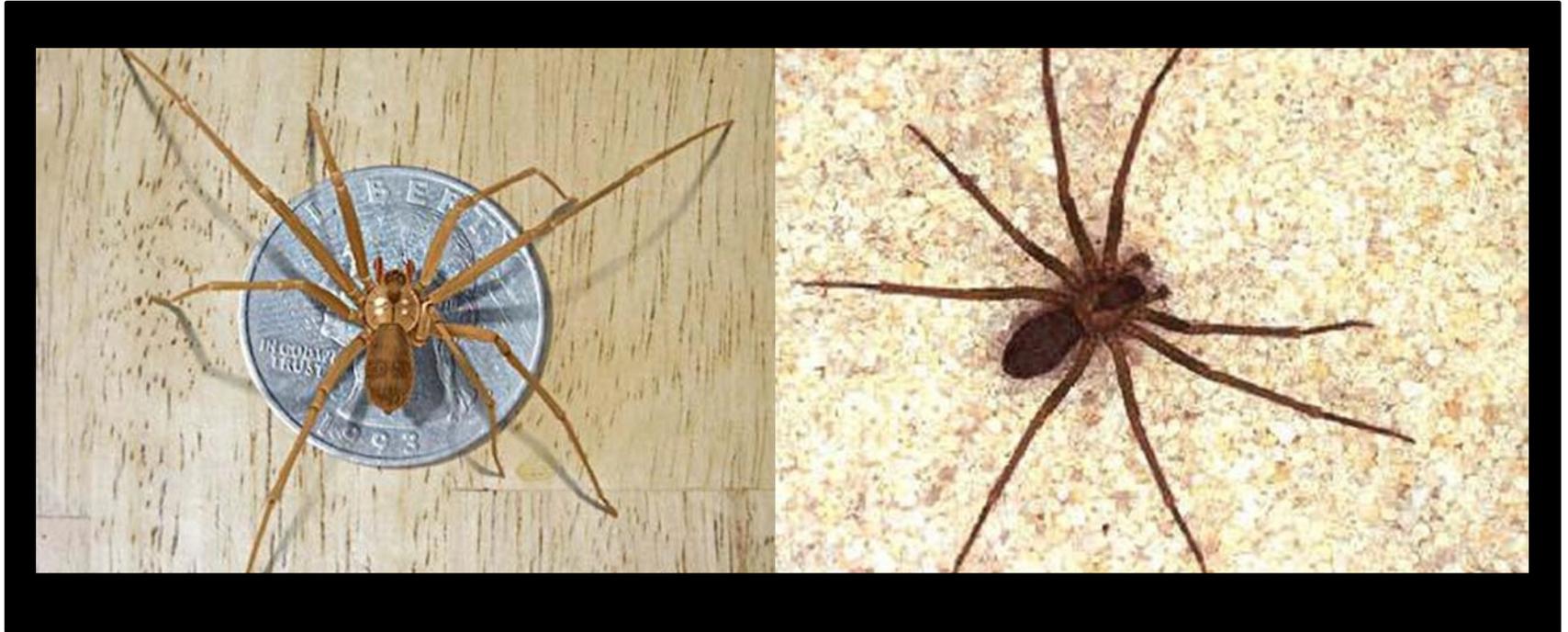
Stinging Nettle Rash



First Aid

- Scrub the area well with soap and water
- Use an insect sting relief pad to relieve the itch
- The reaction usually ends after an hour

Brown Recluse Spider



- Prefers dark quiet places
- Only bites in response to injury
- Most bites occur between March and October

Black Widow Spider



- Web weavers and have poor eyesight.
- Usually bite for defense.
- Typically found around debris piles.



Spider Bites



Spider Bite First Aid

- If bitten, remain calm.
- Apply an ice pack directly to the bite area to relieve swelling and pain.
- If possible, try to collect the spider.
- Immediately seek medical attention.



Deer Tick



Lone Star Tick



American Dog Tick



Brown Dog Tick

Ticks

Common on Fort Campbell

- Found on grasses and shrubs awaiting a host
- Efficient disease vectors
- Embeds into skin of host

Tick Bites



Tick Removal

- Use sharp tweezers and grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible
- Pull straight out with a slow steady motion
- Once the tick releases, wash the area with soap and water
- Save the tick in a clean glass jar or container
- Label the jar with date you removed the tick and the location you acquired the tick

Mosquitos

- Infectious diseases / West Nile Virus & Zika
- Can develop from egg to adult in as little as five days
- Most mosquito species are dawn or dusk feeders
- Controlled by source reduction, biocontrol, or insecticides to kill larvae



removing stagnant water and other breeding areas

Mosquito Bite First Aid

- Irritating bites are due to an immune response to antigens in the mosquito's saliva
- Use anti-itch medications (Benadryl or hydrocortisone) on the bite

Mosquito Control

- Controlled by source reduction, biocontrol, or insecticides to kill larvae

removing stagnant water and other breeding areas



Bees, Wasps, and Hornets

- Sting causes variety of symptoms from minor pain and swelling to fatal allergic reactions
- Bees can sting only once
- Wasps and hornets can sting repeatedly



HoneyBee



Bald Faced Hornet



Paper Wasp



Yellow Jacket

Stinging Insects First Aid

- Identify the insect that cause the sting
- Remove the stinger (honeybee) and clean the area and apply a pain reliever (meat tenderizer, baking soda and water, or Benadryl)
- Watch for signs of an allergic reaction hives, swelling of lips, tongue or face
- Seek medical attention if allergic to stings or at the onset of symptoms

Stinging Caterpillars



Caterpillar Sting First Aid

- Remove any spines using cellophane tape
- Wash area with soap and water
- Apply hydrocortisone cream or calamine lotion

Venomous Snakes

Western Cottonmouth



Timber Rattlesnake

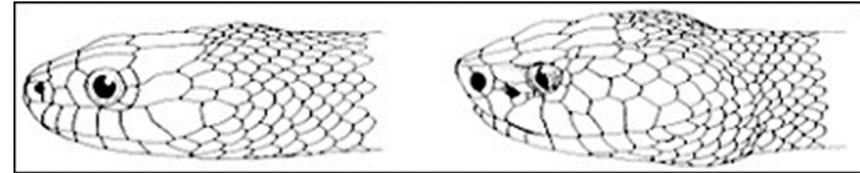


- Three venomous snake occur in this area
- Bites are defensive when threatened
- Most, if not all, are *NOT* aggressive
- All are ambush predators
- Hemotoxic venom (cottonmouth & copperhead)
- Neurotoxic, hemorrhagic, and proteolytic venom (timber rattlesnake)

Southern Copperhead



Venomous vs. Non-venomous



Snakebite First Aid

- Move away from the snake
- Call 911 immediately
- Do not elevate body part keep wound lower than heart
- Remove jewelry or constricting clothes
- Wash the area with soap and water
- If the snake is dead, bring it to the hospital

Bottom line:

*Be aware of your
surroundings*

Questions?

