

	Eastern Milksnake <i>(Lampropeltis triangulum)</i> Average length 24 - 36"
	Northern Rough Greensnake <i>(Opheodrys aestivus)</i> Average length 22 - 32"
	Common Watersnake <i>(Nerodia sipedon)</i> Average length 22 - 42"
	Gray Ratsnake <i>(Pantherophis spiloides)</i> Average length 42 - 72"
	Queensnake <i>(Regina septemvittata)</i> Average length 15 - 24"

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A SNAKE:

Leave the snake alone and move away. Approximately half of all bites occur when individuals attempt to capture, harass, or kill a snake.

Snake Avoidance Tips:

- Be careful when working around brush piles or other debris. Use a rake or long-handled tool to move brush, debris, or other materials.
- Snakes prey on small animals including mice, rats, lizards, and frogs. Removing habitat for these animals (eliminating brush piles, wood piles, sources of food, etc.) will help reduce unwelcome encounters with snakes.
- Wear snake chaps or tall leather boots when walking in thick vegetation.
- Seek medical attention immediately if you are bitten by any venomous or unknown snake. Do not attempt to draw out the venom. If possible, collect the snake safely or take a photo with your phone to provide to medical staff.




Species profile videos about some of the snakes in this pamphlet and a venomous snake safety video can be viewed following this QR link.




Please like and follow our Fort Knox Fish and Wildlife Facebook page for more information.




All photographs used in this publication depict Kentucky snakes, many of which were taken on Fort Knox. Photograph credits: Phil Peak, John MacGregor, Brianard Palmer-Dull, and Jared Handley. We would like to thank the Department of Defense Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation for creating this pamphlet.




Snakes of Fort Knox



Northern Ring-necked Snake



Northern Rough Greensnake




Eastern Milksnake




Twenty species of snakes have been documented on or near Fort Knox. The vast majority of these snake species, such as the Gray Ratsnake, Southern Black Racer, and the Northern Ring-necked Snake, are non-venomous and harmless. However, two species of venomous snake are also known to occur here (Eastern Copperhead and Timber Rattlesnake). Snakes play an important role in the ecosystems of Kentucky. Please do not kill snakes, particularly when they are encountered away from dwellings or work spaces.

Environmental Management Division

Directorate of Public Works

Natural Resources Branch

VENOMOUS	
	Eastern Copperhead <i>(Agkistrodon contortrix)</i> Average length 24 - 36"
	Timber Rattlesnake <i>(Crotalus horridus)</i> Average length 36 - 60"
NON-VENOMOUS	
	Common Wormsnake <i>(Carphophis amoenus)</i> Average length 7.5 - 11"
	Northern Ring-necked Snake <i>(Diadophis punctatus edwardsii)</i> Average length 10- 15"
	Dekay's Brownsnake <i>(Storeria dekayi)</i> Average length 9 - 13"

	Red-bellied Snake <i>(Storeria occipitomaculata)</i> Average length 8 - 10"
	Northern Scarletsnake <i>(Cemophora coccinea copei)</i> Average length 14 - 20"
	Western Smooth Earthsnake <i>(Virginia valeriae elegans)</i> Average length 7 - 10"
	Southeastern Crowned Snake <i>(Tantilla coronata)</i> Average length 8-10"
	Southern Black Racer <i>(Coluber constrictor priapus)</i> Average length 36 - 60"

	Eastern Gartersnake <i>(Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis)</i> Average length 18 - 26"
	Common Ribbonsnake <i>(Thamnophis saurita saurita)</i> Average length 18 - 26"
	Prairie Kingsnake <i>(Lampropeltis calligaster)</i> Average length 30 - 42"
	Eastern Hog-nosed Snake <i>(Heterodon platirhinos)</i> Average length 20 - 33"
	Eastern Black Kingsnake <i>(Lampropeltis nigra)</i> Average length 36 - 45"



























