



Fontana Police Department Press Release

Rodney G. Jones
Chief of Police

Details:

Chief Rodney Jones and the Fontana Police Department would like to remind residents that we are in the heat of rattle snake season. Officers have responded to two (2) calls in two (2) days regarding rattle snakes in populated areas of the city. If you see a snake, immediately call the Fontana Police Department Animal Services Team (FAST) at 350-7700. If you feel an immediate threat is presented by the snake, call 9-1-1.

Here are some tips to avoid rattle snakes from coming on your property and/or being bitten:

- Make lots of noise if you are going into an area of your yard or property you haven't been in for a while (sheds, garages, out buildings, campers, etc.)
- Fruit dropped from trees in your yard will attract mice and other rodents. Mice and rodents are what snakes eat for food and they will come where their food is.
- If you hear a rattle - stop and look around for a snake. If seen, slowly walk in the opposite direction.
- If you see a snake, don't approach it. Most snake bites occur when people try to handle, trap, or kill them. Call FAST, they are the experts!

According to Doctor Sean Bush (LLUMC), here is what you should do if you are bitten by a rattler:

- First, call 9-1-1
- Try not to panic and minimize activity if possible. However, if you are alone when bitten, you may have to walk/hike to the nearest phone.
- **DO NOT** take aspirin, ibuprofen, cut the fang injection site and suck venom, or apply ice. All of these measures can aggravate the already serious snake bite injury.

FROM:

Sergeant Billy Green-Public Information Officer

Contact Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Desk: (909) 854-8013 Fax: (909) 350-7767

MEDIA INQUIRIES after 5:00 P.M. or on Friday, Saturday or Sunday should be directed to the Watch Commander's Office through the Police Communications Center at (909) 350-7700