

A landscape photograph showing a dry riverbed or streambed winding through a grassy field. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text "Snake Safety" is overlaid in the center of the image.

# Snake Safety

May 8, 2006

# True or False?

**Snakes are most active in the summer when the weather is hottest.**

**Answer: False.**

**If you encounter a rattlesnake while hiking, you should scream and jump up and down to scare it away.**

**Answer: False.**

**At [wdfw.wa.gov](http://wdfw.wa.gov), you can find tips for attracting snakes to your yard.**

**Answer: True**

# Which is which?



# Snake heads demystified . . .



# Tips to avoid rattlesnake bites:

- Stick to well used trails.
- In brushy areas, use a walking stick to alert snakes to your approach.
- Do not step or put hands where you cannot see.
- Wear over-the-ankle boots and loose-fitting long pants.

# If a rattlesnake bites:

## **DO:**

- **Keep victim calm**
- **Restrict victim's movement**
- **Wash bite with soap & water**
- **Remove constricting items near affected area**
- **Treat victim for shock**
- **Get medical help immediately**

## **DO NOT:**

- **Allow victim to walk or run.**
- **Cut or suck the wound**
- **Apply ice or cold packs**
- **Use a tourniquet**
- **Give victim anything by mouth, including medications**
- **Raise bite area above victim's heart**

# The only good snake?

