

It's Snake Season

It's that time of year, so keep an eye out for snakes while hiking around the
Cache Creek Nature Preserve

Know Your Snakes

Species found in Yolo County



Northern Pacific Rattlesnake

Crotalus oreganus oreganus

.....
Venomous

Head: triangular, larger than neck

Body: thick, dull non-glossy, blotched pattern giving way to dark tail rings at rear

Tail: blunt with one or more rattles



Pacific Gopher Snake

Pituophis catenifer catenifer

.....
Non-venomous

Head: slightly wider than neck

Body: slender glossy

Tail: pointed

Photo credit to Gary Nafis



Valley Garter Snake

Thamnophis sirtalis fitchi

.....
Non-venomous

Head: slightly wider than neck

Body: slender slaty, black, or brownish in color, broad dorsal strip, series of red dots down its right and left side

Tail: pointed

Photo credit to Gary Nafis

Stay Safe!

Tips to avoid encounters:

- Be alert when on the trail
- Don't step into areas where you cannot see the ground, such as in tall grass
- Check around stumps and logs before sitting down to rest

If you encounter a snake on the trail remember:

STOP immediately if you see a snake

NEVER attempt to catch, disturb or kill ANY snake

ALWAYS report snake sightings to others on the trail

KEEP your distance

If anyone is bitten, it is an

EMERGENCY call 911

STAY calm

Not commonly seen at the Preserve



Giant Garter Snake

.....
Thamnophis gigas

Threatened Species

Photo credit to Gary Nafis



California Kingsnake

.....
Lampropeltis californiae



Western Yellow-bellied Racer

.....
Coluber constrictor mormon

Photo credit to Zach Lim



Northwestern Ring-necked Snake

.....
Diadophis punctatus occidentalis

Photo credit to Gary Nafis