



Hiking in rattlesnake country



- Dress appropriately:
 - Sturdy boots and loose-fitting long pants are best.
 - Sandals, flip-flops, and shorts are NOT RECOMMENDED when hiking in rattlesnake country!
- Be aware of your surroundings. Rattlesnake like:
 - Rocky areas
 - Areas with lots of small mammals or other prey (e.g., river corridors, prairie dog colonies)
 - Rock, wood and other debris that provide cover

- Stay on trails and avoid tall grass, weeds, heavy underbrush, and rocky areas.
- Watch where you put hands and feet! Step ON logs and rocks first, rather than over them. This often allows you to see a snake that might be on the other side.
- Use a flashlight at night. Rattlesnakes are often active at night in the summer.
- Keep pets on a leash. Snakes view dogs as predators and will defend themselves.
- Have a reliable form of communication so you can call for medical assistance immediately if someone is bitten by a rattlesnake.

