



**Eastern
Milksnake**
(*Lampropeltis
triangulum*)

**Average
length 24 - 36"**



**Northern Rough
Greensnake**
(*Opheodrys
aestivus
aestivus*)

**Average
length 22 - 32"**



**Common
Watersnake**
(*Nerodia
sipedon*)

**Average length
22 - 42"**



Gray Ratsnake
(*Pantherophis
spiloides*)

**Average
length 42 - 72"**



Queensnake
(*Regina
septemvittata*)

**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 & Wildlife Facebook page for more information.



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Snakes of Fort Knox

Northern Ring-necked Snake



Northern Rough Greensnake



Eastern Milksnake

Twenty species of snakes have been documented on 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 Resource Branch**

VENOMOUS



Eastern
Copperhead
(*Agkistrodon
contortrix*)
Average
length 24 - 36"



Timber
Rattlesnake
(*Crotalus
horridus*)
Average
length 36 - 60"

NON-VENOMOUS



Common
Wormsnake
(*Carphophis
amoenus*)
Average
length 7.5 - 11"



Northern
Ring-necked Snake
(*Diadophis
punctatus
edwardsii*)
Average
length 10- 15"



Dekay's
Brownsnake
(*Storeria
dekayi*)
Average
length 9 - 13"



Red-bellied
Snake
(*Storeria
occipitomaculata*)
Average
length 8 - 10"



Northern
Scarletsnake
(*Cemophora
coccinea
copei*)
Average
length 14 - 20"



Western Smooth
Earthsnake
(*Virginia
valeriae
elegans*)
Average
length 7 - 10"



Southeastern
Crowned Snake
(*Tantilla
coronate*)
Average
length 8 - 10"



Southern Black
Racer
(*Coluber
constrictor
priapus*)
Average
length 36 - 60"



Eastern
Gartersnake
(*Thamnophis
sirtalis
sirtalis*)
Average
length 18 - 26"



Common
Ribbonsnake
(*Thamnophis
saurita
saurita*)
Average
length 18 - 26"



Prairie
Kingsnake
(*Lampropeltis
calligaster*)
Average
length 30 - 42"



Eastern
Hog-nosed Snake
(*Heterodon
platirhinos*)
Average
length 20 - 33"



Eastern Black
Kingsnake
(*Lampropeltis
nigra*)
Average
length 36 - 45"