



# News Release

## CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

For release: 05/03/2017  
Contact: Laurie Mullens  
972-899-5131 / 940-597-3721  
lmullens@highlandvillage.org

1000 Highland Village Road  
Highland Village, TX 75077  
www.highlandvillage.org

### ***Be Snake Aware***

Snakes and especially Copperheads are big in our area and, with the recent rains and the mild winter, they are out in abundance. Here are a few tips to help you be snake aware:

- Snakes like to live in flower beds, under leaf litter, tree limbs and dead logs on the ground. Keep the lawn and landscape around your home trimmed.
- Use caution when putting your hand on the ground to retrieve things and never put your hands where you cannot see them.
- Be careful and watch where you walk.
- Teach your kids to keep an eye out especially with spring in full force.
- Copperhead venom is not very potent. Their bite may be painful but is very rarely, almost never, fatal to humans. However, there still may be an allergic reaction so anyone bitten by a snake should call 911 or seek medical attention.

If you are bit by a venomous snake, here are some tips from the Mayo Clinic:

- Call 911 immediately, especially if the area changes color, begins to swell, or is painful. Many hospitals stock anti-venom drugs, which may help you.
- If possible, take these steps while waiting for medical help:
- Remain calm and move beyond the snake's striking distance.
- Remove jewelry and tight clothing before you start to swell.
- Position yourself, if possible, so that the bite is at or below the level of your heart.
- Clean the wound, but don't flush it with water. Cover it with a clean, dry dressing.

Caution:

- Don't use a tourniquet or apply ice.
- Don't cut the wound or attempt to remove the venom.
- Don't drink caffeine or alcohol, which could speed the rate at which your body absorbs venom.
- Don't try to capture the snake. Try to remember its color and shape so that you can describe it, which will help in your treatment. Use a cell phone to take a photo if possible.