UNDERSTANDING SNAKES IN THE GREATER DURBAN AREA

VENOMOUS SNAKES
- Rhombic Night Adder
- Mozambique Spitting Cobra
- Black Mamba

HARMLESS SPECIES
- Spotted Bush Snake
- Brown House Snake
- Harald Snake

WHAT NOT TO DO IF YOU SEE A SNAKE
- DO NOT try to kill it. This will put you at high risk of being bitten. If you try and hurt it, it will defend itself.
- DO NOT try to capture the snake. Snakes do not know if you are trying to help them or not, and thus see humans as a threat. Therefore, the snake may bite.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A SNAKE
- DO leave it alone, and move away slowly. If you do this, the snake will not do anything to you.
- If it is out in the bush, leave it in peace.
- If the snake is in or around your home, call a snake catcher immediately for advice or to remove it.
- If you call a snake catcher, please watch the snake from a safe distance (5m or more).

WHAT TO DO IF YOU OR SOMEONE AROUND YOU IS BITTEN BY A SNAKE
- Someone with a driver’s license must transport the patient to the nearest hospital or clinic.
- Alternatively, an ambulance should be called.
- DO NOT waste any time.
- DO NOT try to kill or capture the snake to take to hospital. This is not necessary and is dangerous.
- A photo of the snake may be helpful but not necessary.

Contact details
- Snake catcher
  Nick Evans - 072 669 5806
- Snakebite Advisory Group
  Dr Hardcastle: 082 488 1615
  Dr Garach: 082 495 0135
- Hospitals
  St Augustine’s Casualty: 031 268 5559
  Hillcrest Hospital: 031 769 8000

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www.kznamphibianreptileconservation.com
arwworks.co.za