



FYN Garden Q & A Series

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Yards & Neighborhoods



FYN Topic: Wildlife Displaced by Frequent Rains

Question: Do frequent rains and higher water levels in my yard create more or less habitat for snakes? My newly-constructed home abuts a wetland preserve? Rodney via phone

Answer: With more frequent rains and water covering our yards, some wildlife, including many snakes, get displaced and move to higher ground. As a result, your chance encounter with a snake seeking dry land will increase. To stay safe, learn how to tell the difference between harmless, non-venomous snake species and potentially dangerous, venomous ones. Killing or attempting to kill snakes around your home greatly increases your chances of being bitten. Make sure gaps under doors, holes in walls, or openings on your roof or pool screen are sealed. In your yard, reduce tall grass and prune overgrown shrubs. Learn more about snake-proofing your yard. Visit the website, Florida Wildlife Extension. <http://www.wec.ufl.edu/extension/>



Florida Water Moccasin - venomous

Useful Links

<http://www.floridayards.org>
<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>
<http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>
<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu>



Black Rat Snake - non venomous

Thomas Becker is an extension agent for the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) program at the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the Horticulture Help Desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by emailing Extgardener@leegov.com. Visit his Web page at <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/FYN/FYNHome.shtml>

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