

EASTERN KINGSNAKE

Lampropeltis getula

Kingsnakes are arguably one of the most handsome of all serpents. These snakes get very big with some individuals reaching five feet in length. Kingsnakes are nonvenomous constrictors feeding on rodents, birds, lizards and even turtle eggs.

Their real claim to fame is the ability to kill and eat other snakes, including venomous species like cottonmouths and rattlesnakes. Because of their natural immunity to pit viper venom, the bite from a venomous snake has little effect on them.

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These snakes are most often encountered in the spring or summer, especially after heavy rains.

This information is provided by Savannah River Ecology Laboratory Outreach and SPARC.

For more information, call (803) 725-0156.

You may also visit us at: www.uga.edu/srel/outreach.htm or www.parcplace.org/education/

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