200 Mehrhof Hall
PO Box 110675
Gainesville, FL 32611-0675
Telephone (352) 392-1831 x 246
Fax (352) 392-1413
www.gardeninginaminute.com

Snakes

Today on Gardening in a Minute: snakes.

In the spring, snakes are on the move, and you're bound to come across a snake at least once.

There are over forty species of snakes in the state, but only six are venomous. Most Florida snakes are harmless and benefit us by eating rodents. And some non-venomous snakes, like the Eastern Indigo snake, will eat poisonous snakes!

If you come across a snake in your yard, leave it alone. It'll probably go away, because mostly, snakes are just passing through. But if you often see snakes, they may be there to feed on rodents.

To discourage mice and rats, remove their food sources by frequently cleaning up pet food scraps and birdseed under feeders.

Next time you see a snake, let it slide on by.

For more information about snakes and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.