

# NEFHRC

## Coming Events

- ◇ 03/04-03/05/2017  
Cherokee Foothills  
HRC Hunt Test
- ◇ 03/11/2017 Charleston  
Retriever Club Hunt  
Test
- ◇ 03/18-03/19/2017 Mid-  
lands HRC Hunt Test
- ◇ 03/18/2017 NEFHRC  
Training Day
- ◇ 04/01-04/02/2017  
Coastal Empire HRC  
Hunt Test
- ◇ 04/01-04/02/2017  
Backwoods HRC Hunt  
Test
- ◇ 04/08-04/09/2017  
**NEFHRC Hunt Test**
- ◇ 04/08-04/09/2017  
Central Alabama HRC  
Hunt Test
- ◇ 04/08-04/09/2017  
Eastern Carolina HRC  
Hunt Test
- ◇ 04/24-04/29/2017  
Spring International  
Grand

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# The Hunter's Blind

Volume 4, Issue 3

March 2017

## About NEFHRC Newsletter . . .

This monthly newsletter is to help members keep updated on our club events, achievements, or other announcements that may be of interest. Please call or email Karen VanDonsel at (828) 877-3254 or [webmaster@nefhrc.net](mailto:webmaster@nefhrc.net) if you have anything you would like to submit. Alternatively, you may contact Tom Gaddis at (904) 699-3084 or [President@nefhrc.net](mailto:President@nefhrc.net).

Please feel free to submit pictures, announcements of events, brags, the sale of dog or training equipment, litters, or any other announcements for club members! The deadline for submissions will be the 15th of each month.

If you have an idea for a recurring feature article, please let us know. This newsletter is for you, our members. We want to include what you want. So, please help make this a great newsletter. Submit your articles, pictures, stories and ideas. We want to hear from you!



Future hunter, , owned by Tom Gaddis.

## Dog/Puppy Points

Please take the time to send your dog/puppy points to our Webmaster, Karen VanDonsel. You can send the information to Karen via e-mail at [webmaster@nefhrc.net](mailto:webmaster@nefhrc.net). Be sure to include the following information in the e-mail: owner's name, dog's call name, dog's date of birth, points earned only in the current calendar year and total points earned in all years.

Alternatively, you can fill out the form on the club

website at <http://www.nefhrc.net/club-information/submit-your-dog-points/>. If you experience any problems using the online form, please contact Karen.

NEFHRC recognizes the top dog and top puppy each year. In this context, a "puppy" is defined as a dog aged 24 months and younger.

## First Aid for Snake Bites in Dogs

### Toxin

Snake venom

### Source

Most snake bites are from pit vipers, which are poisonous snakes that are identified by their triangular heads, retractable fangs, and a special heat-sensing pit between the eye and nostril. North American pit vipers include five subspecies of copperheads, three subspecies of water moccasins, three subspecies of pygmy rattlesnakes, three subspecies of massauga, and at least 26 subspecies of rattlesnakes. Water moccasins and copperheads are found in the eastern United States and southward through Texas. Rattlesnakes are found throughout the contiguous United States, with the highest concentration in the south and southwest.

### General Information

Snake bites tend to occur on the pet's head or neck. Bites involving the trunk of the body have a poorer prognosis. Snake bites may affect one or more body systems including the [cardiopulmonary](#) system, the nervous system, or the [coagulation](#) system. Usually, if the snake is not poisonous or the venom was not injected, the pain, swelling, and bruising at the bite site will be minimal.

### Toxic Dose

Varies. [Envenomation](#) does not always occur. The severity of envenomation is related to the time of the year, the volume of venom present in the snake, the location of the bite, the number of bites, and the amount of victim movement after the bite (movement increases the spread of the venom). The amount of venom is not related to the size of the snake. [Systemic](#) signs such as kidney damage may take 24-72 hours to develop in mild envenomations, so the animal should be observed closely for several days.

### Signs

May see one, two, or several small puncture wounds, bleeding, bruising, immediate

*“Most snake bites are from pit vipers, which are poisonous snakes . . .”*

and extremely painful swelling at the site of the bite, and [tissue necrosis](#). The more severe [systemic](#) signs may take up to several hours to appear and include [hypotension](#) and shock, lethargy and weakness, muscle tremors, nausea, vomiting, and neurological signs including depressed respiration.

#### Immediate Action

Identify the snake if possible. Restrict movement of the pet. Loosely immobilize the limb in a functional position if bitten on an extremity. DO NOT incise the bite wound to [aspirate](#) the venom and DO NOT apply a tourniquet without veterinary assistance. DO NOT apply ice to the area. Seek veterinary attention.

#### Veterinary Care

**General treatment:** The animal will be kept quiet and the bitten area immobilized if possible to decrease the spread of the venom. The area around the wound will be clipped and cleaned.

**Supportive treatment:** [Antihistamines](#) may be administered and [IV](#) fluids given to help prevent low blood pressure. Oxygen is given if needed. Antibiotics are used to prevent secondary infections. Pain medication is provided as necessary. Laboratory tests to check for bleeding problems and organ damage will be performed repeatedly. Blood transfusions may be necessary in cases of severe coagulopathies. The area above and below the bite wounds may be measured every 15 minutes to monitor the [edema](#).

[Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs \(NSAIDs\)](#) are contraindicated in the early phase (first 24 hours) of treatment because of the different types of venom and the anticoagulant effects of NSAIDs. The use of [corticosteroids](#) may be contraindicated also, as some research shows they increase the severity of the bite.

**Specific treatment:** Antivenin\* may be administered. The use of antivenin is controversial and is used at the discretion of the attending veterinarian. To be most effective, antivenin should be given within 4 hours of the bite. It becomes less effective as more time passes.

All snake bite victims should be observed for a minimum of 12 hours, even when there

*“Identify the snake if possible. Restrict movement of the pet. . . Seek veterinary attention.”*

are no clinical signs. If clinical signs are present, the length of observation is increased to 48-72 hours, as damage to organs may not appear immediately.

### Prognosis

A study of animals bitten by pit vipers showed that those treated with antivenin, intravenous fluids, and antibiotics had a mortality rate less than 1% and local tissue damage was rare. The mortality rate in untreated patients depended on the species of snake involved. For example, in patients bitten by the Northern Pacific Rattlesnakes, the mortality rate was about 10%. In the much more dangerous Mojave rattlesnake, it could be as high as 35%.

\*Two companies, Fort Dodge and Wyeth Ayerst Laboratories produce antivenin. Veterinary clinics and human hospitals in areas that have a high population of pit vipers have this product on hand. Many owners want to carry this product with them, but because of the intravenous administration and instability of the product, it is recommended that a veterinarian give it.

*“A study of animals bitten by pit vipers showed that those treated with antivenin, intravenous fluids, and antibiotics had a mortality rate less than 1% and local tissue damage was rare.”*

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# NEFHRC

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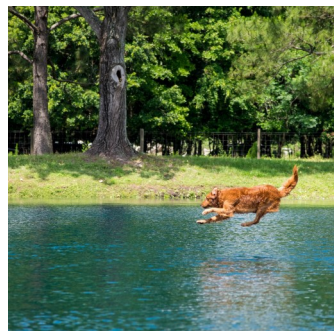
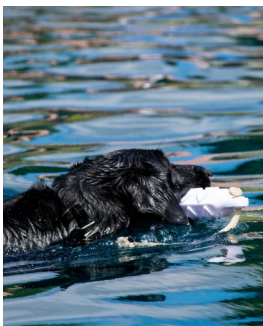
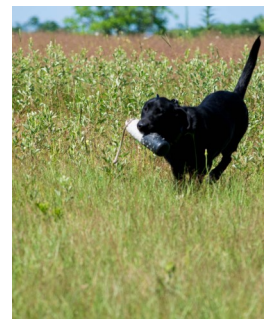
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NEFHRC is sanctioned by the United Kennel Club, Inc. We are a club devoted to the training of bird hunting dogs for the purposes of hunting and hunt tests. As the UKC says, we are a club "Conceived by hunters for hunters."

## Club Officers and Contacts

- ⇒ President—Tom Gaddis  
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*For the dogs!*



# MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			01	02	03	04 Cherokee Foothills
05 Cherokee Foothills	06	07	08	09	10	11 Charleston Retriever Club
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 NEFHRC Training Day Midlands HRC
19 Midlands HRC	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						01 Coastal Empire Backwoods HRC
02 Coastal Empire Backwoods HRC	03	04	05	06	07	08 NEFHRC Hunt Test Central Alabama Eastern Carolina
09 NEFHRC Hunt Test Central Alabama Eastern Carolina	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/ 30	24 Spring International Grand	25 Spring International Grand	26 Spring International Grand	27 Spring International Grand	28 Spring International Grand	29