

As temperatures increase, so do the chances of coming across a rattlesnake.

The Chino Valley Fire District offers the following safety tips to keep you safe while enjoying the outdoors.

- **Never hike alone. Always have someone with you who can assist in an emergency.**
- **Never go barefoot or wear sandals when hiking or walking through grassy areas.**
- **Stay on well-used trails. Avoid tall grass, weeds and heavy underbrush where snakes may hide during the day. Do not step or put your hands where you cannot see.**
- **Do not handle a freshly killed snake, it can still inject venom.**
- **Teach children early to respect snakes and to leave them alone.**
- **Do not panic if bitten by a rattlesnake. Remain calm and slowly move away from the snake.**
- **Call 9-1-1 immediately or send someone for help.**
- **Keep the bite at or below heart level. Do not apply a cold pack, tourniquet or attempt to suck out the venom.**

