



# Welcome to the Ecological Action Studio

Meets every Wednesday 1:00 - 6:20 pm

ENV 243

Dr. Jaime L. Baxter-Slye

[slye@unt.edu](mailto:slye@unt.edu)

&

Makynzie Cler, Teaching Assistant

[makynziecler@my.unt.edu](mailto:makynziecler@my.unt.edu)



Get involved! <https://linktr.ee/baxterslye>

Slye's office hours: Thurs 12-2 pm ENV 332  
or [click here to use Slye's bookings page](#)

Mak's office hours are by appt! Just send me  
an email and we will coordinate :)



# Spring 2026 Contemporary Topics in Biology: the Ecological Action Studio

BIOL 4005.004 & 4005.504, must register for both one 3 hr lecture credit & one 1 hr laboratory credit

When: W: 1 – 6:30 pm 330 mins 5.5 hrs; 20-minute break at 5pm included for eating

Where: ENV 243 and on-site at field locations. Transportation will be provided

## What will I need?

Large water bottle (64 oz recommended)

Snacks

Fully-charged smart phone with camera (Optional: 'big camera')

Fully-charged laptop

Notepad and pencil

Seasonal & protective field clothes

Discord, CANVA, iNaturalist, Microsoft 365, Google Earth, ArcGIS



### Join the Spring 2026 Ecological Action Studio Discord Server!

Check out the Spring 2026 Ecological Action Studio community on Discord - hang out with 9 other members and enjoy free voice and text chat.

[Discord](#)



### Software Downloads

UNT offers the following software for home-use on personally owned computers to active students, faculty, and staff at reduced or no additional cost.

[aits.unt.edu / Dec 18, 2025](#)

### Earth Versions

[Google Earth](#)



Getting Started  
A collection of how-to pages for new iNaturalist users.  
[iNaturalist Help](#)





**The Ecological Action Studio is an upper-level applied field course that features current natural resource management projects in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.**

### **Scope of projects include:**

- **habitat management planning**
- **economic benefit analysis**
- **stormwater management**
- **public open space planning**
- **water and stream restoration**
- **park interpretation and assessment**
- **native plant installation best practices**
- **stakeholder & community engagement**
- **municipal blue-green infrastructure development**
- **environmental inventory with flora and fauna identification**
- **video production & professional report and presentation development**

**All work conducted with 'One Health' and 'Blue-green Infrastructure' approach.**



## Learning objectives include:

- **Work with stakeholders to develop and design projects for future real-world implementation**
- **Conduct habitat resource inventories at municipal sites**
- **Learn traditional and experimental restoration techniques**
- **Understand Blue-Green Infrastructure and One-Health approaches**
- **Design portions of municipal stormwater management, habitat management, and conservation action plans**
- **Generate effective community engagement material for municipal use**
- **Prepare professional grade reports**
- **Deliver professional presentations to stakeholders**

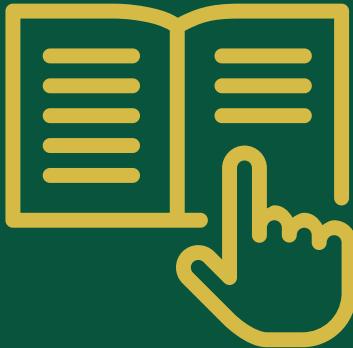


## Unique opportunities include:

- **This course is non-traditional and highly applied.**
- **Each semester differs because the stakeholders and desired projects change.**
- **Students work alongside professionals to develop municipal natural resource solutions.**
- **Each student will refine skills related to identification, GIS, graphic design, interpretative insight, presentation, and professional report writing.**
- **Some students will be more adept than others in particular areas. The group atmosphere will allow students not only to learn, but to teach and mentor, replicating a professional scenario.**
- **Students will incorporate stakeholder interests by providing a report and presenting the project to interest groups, committees, council, or community entities.**
- **Deliverables include informative media for municipal use.**
- **Students will create a CV and portfolio, with peer-review.**
- **In short, the course is designed to prepare students to work at a entry-level municipality, consultant, or non-profit level.**



Read material on CANVAS & One Drive for the upcoming week



Meet in 243  
or loading dock  
on Wednesdays at

1300

Meet stakeholders & discuss project



or conduct field surveys or work on projects in lab





# Class Schedule

Ecological Action Studio meets in ENV 243 and site locations Wednesdays 1:00 - 6:30pm

Day	Topic	Deliverables Due	Points
Jan 14	Syllabus, safety, background to projects, form groups, start CV/portfolio project	Syllabus agreement	5
Jan 21	Background to projects: Meet your stakeholders & plan site assessments	Project Plan; Presentations scheduled	100
Jan 28	Cole Ranch Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Feb 4	Cole Ranch Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Feb 11	Cole Ranch Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Feb 18	Cole Ranch Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Feb 25	Cole Ranch Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Mar 4	Cole Ranch Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Mar 11	Spring Break		
Mar 18	LLELA Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Mar 25	LLELA Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Apr 1	LLELA Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Apr 8	LLELA Site Visit	Plan Announced; Site Visit Questionnaire	50
Variable	Plan Announcement Grade		25
Apr 15	Synthesis: group workday; bring laptops	CV & Portfolio	50
Apr 22	Synthesis: group workday; bring laptops	Draft of Presentations	50
Apr 29	Synthesis: group workday; bring laptops	Draft of Report	50
May 6	Final Presentations: in-class and off site	In Class & Off Site Presentations Final Report Peer & Self Review	100 100 20
		Total Possible Points	1000

Final Letter Grade = number of points received / 1000 \*100 = % rounded to the nearest whole number

A = 89.5 - 100; B = 79.5 - 89.4; C = 69.5 - 79.4; D = 59.5 - 69.4; F < 59.4



# Attendance Policy

- We use 'active participation' in lieu of attendance.
- Participation = active discussions, doing your part when conducting surveys, making documentations, reporting data, acting in a professional manner, and remaining safe and calm.
- At the end of each site visit, students will fill out an assessment form worth 50 points. The form will include data collected, discussion points, and relevant literature.
- <https://forms.office.com/r/mhqVHRG5Wp>
- If a University excused absence occurs, students should immediately make arrangements with their TA to make up the lab before the end of the week or make other arrangements if that is not possible.
- We ask that if you miss lab, you contact your group and your TA ASAP so that we can work together to get caught back up.
- Your group depends on you. Please don't skip.



**Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*)  
at Cole Ranch**

## Late turn in policy for any assignment

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			All assignments due Wednesdays by midnight	Late -10%	Late -10%	Late -10%
Late -10%	Late -10%	Late -10%	Late -10%			

**After the following Wednesday at 11:59pm, no assignments taken for any points unless Dean's note or University excused reasons.**

### Excused Absences

1. An absence may be excused for the following reasons:
  - a. religious holy day, including travel for that purpose;
  - b. active military service, including travel for that purpose;
  - c. participation in an official university function;
  - d. illness or other extenuating circumstances;
  - e. pregnancy and parenting under Title IX; and
  - f. when the University is officially closed.
2. A student is responsible for requesting an excused absence in writing, providing satisfactory evidence to the faculty member to substantiate excused absence and delivering the request personally to the faculty member assigned to the course for which the student will be absent.
3. When an absence is excused, the faculty member will provide a reasonable time after the absence for the student to complete an assignment or examination missed.
4. Faculty members are required to find a fair resolution if a student missed an examination or assignment on days when the university is officially closed.
5. A student will not be penalized for an excused absence and will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable period after the absence.
6. A student needing assistance verifying absences due to illness or extenuating circumstances for all courses should contact the Dean of Students office. The Dean of Students office will verify the student's documentation and advocate on the student's behalf, as appropriate, to instructors for excused absences.

## Late turn in policy for any missed field trip or in lab workday

For missed field trips or in-lab workday, schedule a meeting with Slye or Mak within 7 days to have a 'virtual make up'.

We will walk you thru what we did on the field trip and the data you missed. You will then be responsible for turning in your Site Visit Questionnaire.

If a meeting occurs within 7 days of the field trip, up to the full points will be given. We will discuss your new due date during the meeting. If a meeting does not occur within 7 days of the field trip, you will NOT be able to make up the points.

[UNT Policy click here](#)





## Our Ethics

*As members of the **UNT Community**, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact.*

*UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.*

*In addition, sometimes in Ecology Laboratory we may not agree on certain issues. However, we must refrain from using insulting, degrading, disrespectful, or offensive terms and language when discussing topics or ideas either in-person, in written assignments, or in group work settings. This includes time outside of lab while working with your group. Failure to do so may result in a point deduction due to lack of effective participation.*



**White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)  
at Cole Ranch**



# UNT 'Rules of Engagement'

- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.
- Ask your instructor and classmates how they would like to be addressed (i.e., nicknames, etc).
- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts.
- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.
- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”
- Avoid making assumptions, ask for clarification.
- Proofread and fact-check your sources.
- See these [Engagement Guidelines](#)



**Hairy Grama (*Bouteloua hirsuta*)  
at Cole Ranch**



# Scholastic Dishonesty

**The Ecological Action Studio has a zero-tolerance policy for scholastic dishonesty including:**

- copying from another student's report writing
- uploading pictures on iNat that you did not take
- groups plagiarizing previous semester projects or literature from sources (not citing)

**Penalty is a reduction in points, a zero for the assignment, and/or be reported to the Dean of Students.**

The term 'plagiarism' includes, but is not limited to:

- the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment

**If we suspect you of cheating, an email will be sent to you to begin an investigation that could lead to penalties.**



**American Rubyspot**  
*(Hetaerina americana)*  
at LLELA



## How can I discuss my grades with Slye or Mak?

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA, 1974) does not permit faculty or staff to report grades by phone or email. In addition, per University policy, grades cannot be posted publicly. Do not request any information from your TA about grades unless it is virtually or in-person.

You can:

- go to office hours
- make an appointment in-person or virtual
- request to speak to your us before or after class



**Coyote (*Canis latrans*)  
at Cole Ranch**



## ODA Information

Students seeking reasonable accommodations must first register with the Office of Disability (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course.

You may request reasonable accommodations at any time.

Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class.

For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.



**American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)  
at Cole Ranch**



# UNT Services

## Academic Support & Student Services

### Student Support Services

#### *Mental Health*

[Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)

[Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)

[UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)

[UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)

[Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

### Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.

### ***Chosen Names***

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

[UNT Records](#)

[UNT ID Card](#)

[UNT Email Address](#)

[Legal Name](#)



# For Group Meeting organization, use Outlook calendar.

← Today < > January 19–23, 2026 ▾ No colleagues in office today

19 Monday	20 Tuesday	21 Wednesday	22 Thursday	23 Friday
9 AM Pollinative Prairie Workday	NA	NA	NA	NA
10 AM				
11 AM				
12 PM				Office Hours
1 PM				
2 PM EAS		Ecological Action Studio Microsoft Teams Meeting Baxter-Slye, Jaime	Ecology Lab	Cole Ranch
3 PM				
4 PM				
5 PM				
6 PM				
7 PM				



# For Group Meeting organization, use apps like TEAMS and OneDrive. Only use the UNT email.

Outlook

Find Microsoft 365 apps

Microsoft 365 Outlook OneDrive Word Excel

PowerPoint OneNote SharePoint Teams Sway

Forms Engage Power Automate Calendar To Do

Planner Class Notebook Whiteboard More apps

Document Workbook Presentation Survey Create more

AERI protocol AM FUNGI American Kestrel Assessment protocols Audubon Audubon on Campus Bee Campus USA

Yesterday

S SimBio [EXT] 2024 Highlight... Thu 1:02 PM Thanks for teaming up with us in ...

This week

GB Greeting from BlueMountain.com [EXT] Amy & Scoot... Wed 6:24 PM You don't often get email from e...

Reminders

Holiday All day 4 days ago

[EXT] Re: Use of Plain-bellied Watersnake picture

Proprietary

tom spinker<tspinker@hotmail.com>

To: Baxter-Slye, Jaime

Fri 12/27/2024 5:08 AM

Yes, you have my permission to use my Plain-bellied Watersnake photo on sign for prairie/pond restoration project.



# Each project will have a folder in the One Drive.

## Click here for the One Drive.

My files > BIOL4005 Ecological Action Studio > Ecological Action Studio Spring 2026

	Name	Modified
	Background Reading Material	10 minutes ago
	Cole Ranch Group One	5 minutes ago
	Cole Ranch Group Two	5 minutes ago
	LLELA Group One	5 minutes ago
	LLELA Group Two	4 minutes ago
	Tools Tutorials and Protocols	9 minutes ago
	Ecological Action Studio Site Assessment Form 30 points each visit..url	About a minute ago
	Responses from Ecological Action Studio Site Assessment Form (30 poi...	2 minutes ago
	Spring 2026 Ecological Action Studio Syllabus.url	A few seconds ago

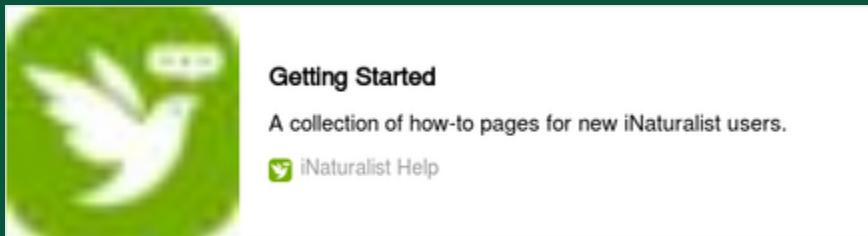


**All students can add information to project folders, like the literature review, data, photos & videos. You will need to create these folders as a group.**

The screenshot shows a OneDrive interface with a green header. The header includes a 'More' button, the 'OneDrive' logo, and a search bar. Below the header is a toolbar with a '+' button, 'Share', 'Copy link', 'Download', and 'Automate' options. The navigation bar shows the path: 'My files > BIOL4005 Ecological Action Studio > Spring 2025 > Carrollton Elm Fork Nature Preserve'. The main content area displays a list of folders, each with a folder icon and a name: 'Background Material', 'Community Engagement', 'Data', 'Literature Review', 'Photos and Video', 'Presentation', 'Protocols', and 'Report'. The 'Data' folder is expanded, showing its contents. On the left side, there is a vertical sidebar with various icons and buttons, including 'UP', 'US', and 'GP' buttons at the bottom.

Name
Background Material
Community Engagement
Data
Literature Review
Photos and Video
Presentation
Protocols
Report

## We use iNaturalist to document flora and fauna.



1. Download phone app (available on desktop, too).
2. Create a professional handle.
3. Make sure your time, date, and location settings are accurate on your phone.
4. Take an overview picture of an organism, and add more pics to show all the parts.
5. Click 'what do you see'.
6. If you see a 'we are pretty sure', select that taxa.
7. If you don't see a 'we are pretty sure', type in one of the following:
  - plant
  - fungi
  - lichen
  - insect
  - spider
  - bird
  - mammal
  - snake
  - ray-finned fish
  - turtle
  - amphibia
  - earthworm
8. upload
9. check back for corrections



**Spring 2026 UNT Ecological Action Studio**

Jan 14, 2026 - May 6, 2026

**About**

Members 1

This project is tracking the Spring 2026 University of North Texas Ecological Action Studio upper-level undergraduate course in the Department of Biological Sciences. Two applied projects are being developed during the Spring 2026 semester.

[Read More >](#)

[Your Membership](#)

[Edit Project](#)

[Project Journal](#)



### Spring 2026 UNT Ecological Action Studio

This project is tracking the Spring 2026 University of North Texas Ecological Action Studio upper-level undergraduate...

 iNaturalist

Click here to go to the Spring 2026 EAS iNat project!  
Once at the project page, click join.



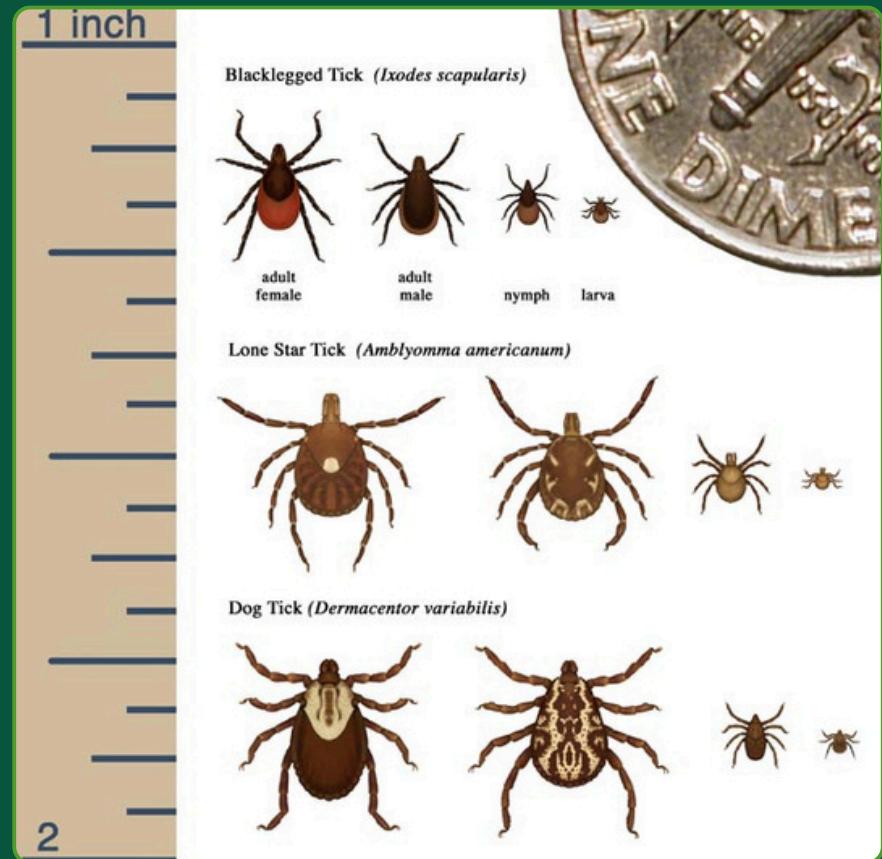
## Lab & Field Hazards

- Field work
- Glassware—can break and cause injury
- Microbes
- NO carcinogens, radiation, or heavy metals.



## Outdoor hazards: Ticks

- Lyme Disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Ehrlichiosis and Relapsing Fever can be transmitted by the bite of an infected tick. If caught early, these diseases can almost always be cured. If left untreated, they can be serious or even fatal.
- Use repellent that contains 20 % or more DEET, picaridin, or IR3535 on exposed skin for protection that lasts several hours
- Conduct a full body tick check and bathe/shower as soon as possible after coming indoors.
- Examine your gear. Tumble dry clothes in dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks





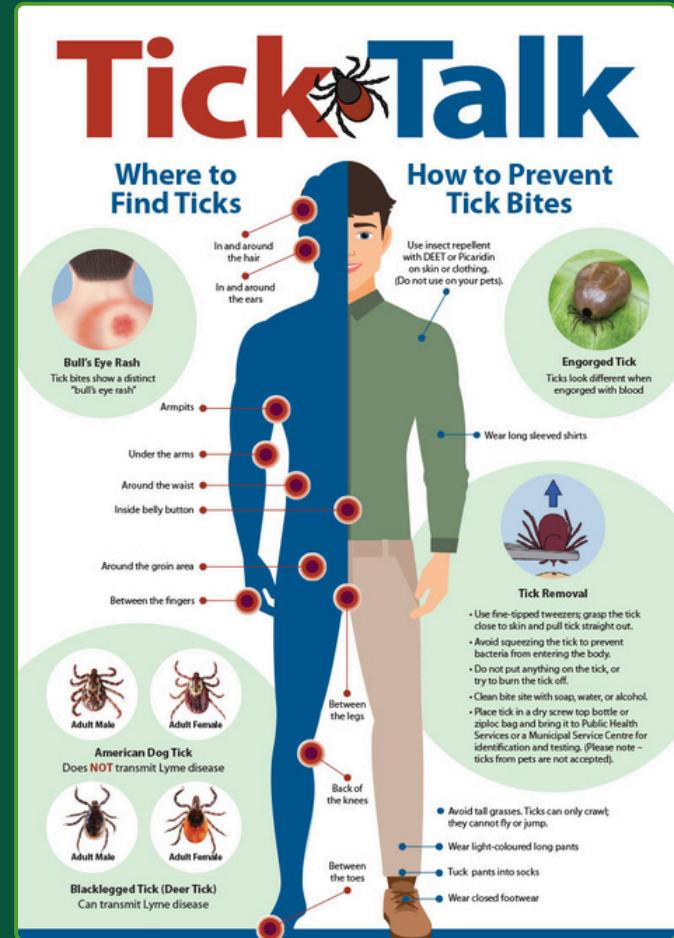
## Outdoor hazards: Ticks

Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you are unable to remove the mouth easily with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.

After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

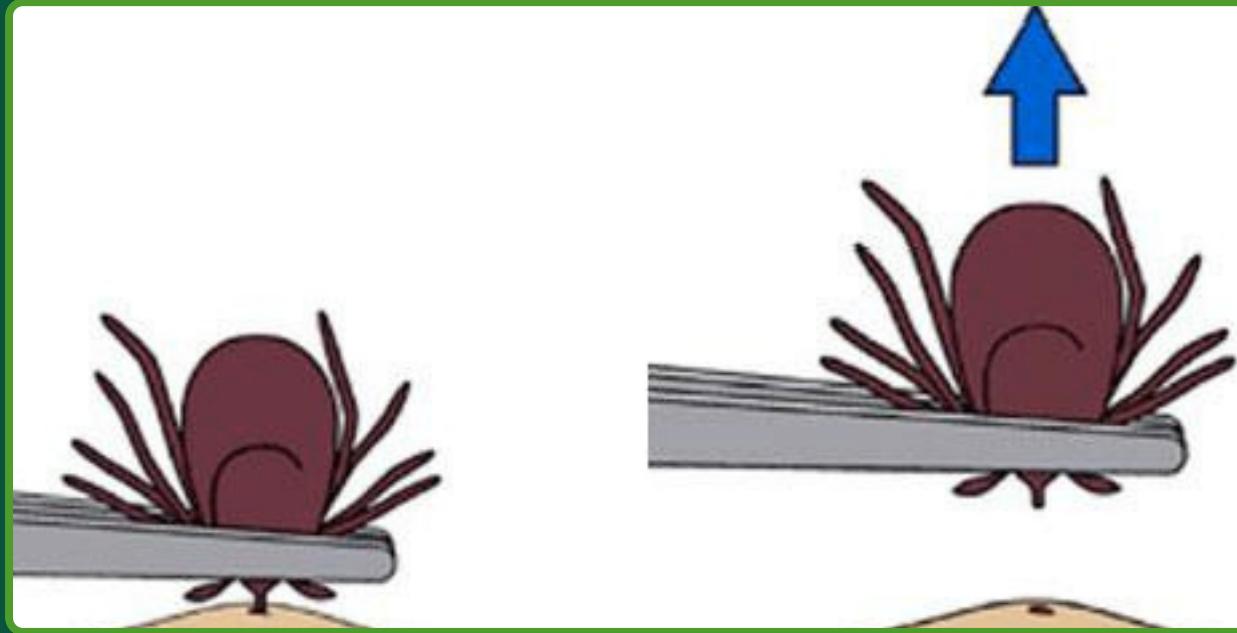
Dispose of a live tick by submersing it in alcohol, placing it in a sealed bag/container, wrapping it tightly in tape, or flushing it down the toilet. Never crush a tick with your fingers.

Avoid folklore remedies such as "painting" the tick with nail polish or petroleum jelly, or using heat to make the tick detach from the skin. Your goal is to remove the tick as quickly as possible—not waiting for it to detach.





## Outdoor hazards: Ticks



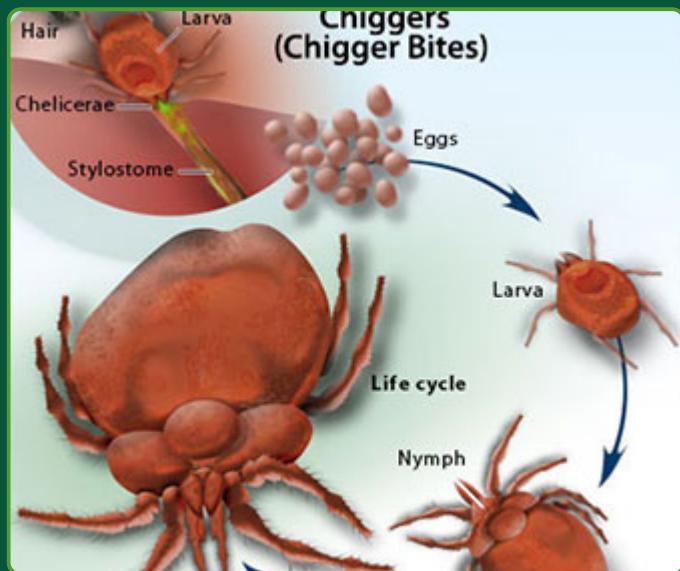
If you develop a rash or fever within several weeks of removing a tick, see your doctor.

Be sure to tell the doctor about your recent tick bite, when the bite occurred, and where you most likely acquired the tick.



# Chiggers are the worst

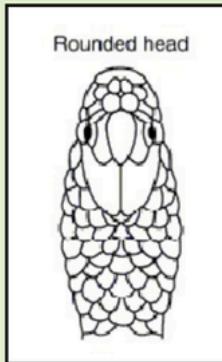
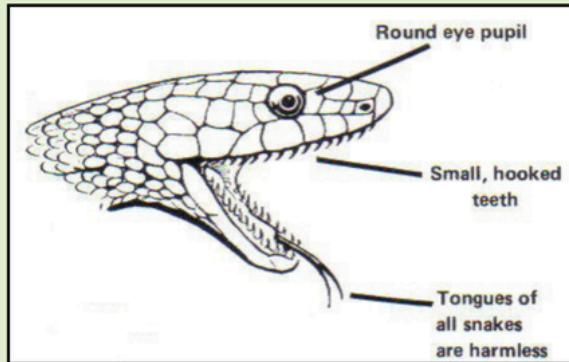
- Use insect repellent containing DEET on skin and clothing
- Wear long pants with sneaker or hiking boots, tuck pant legs into socks, keep your shirt tucked in
- Choose tightly woven fabrics for walking in chigger prone areas
- Take a shower ASAP
- Wash clothing ASAP



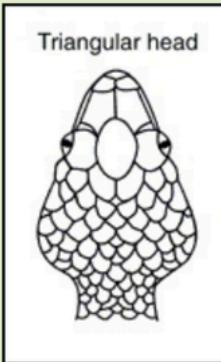
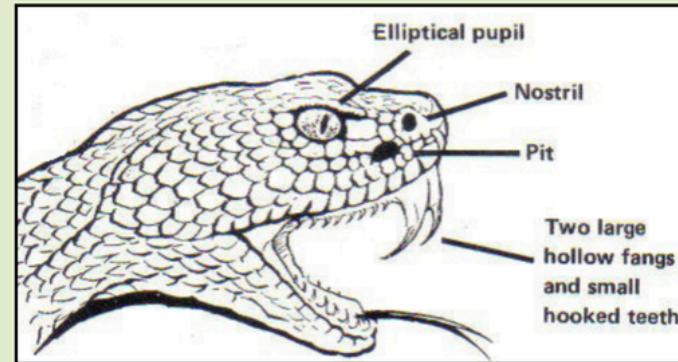


# Snakes are great!

## NONVENOMOUS



## VENOMOUS



by Nicolette Peters

“Don’t be afraid of snakes, be aware! They are signs of a healthy environment.” – Texas Parks and Wildlife  
What kind of snake is this? North Texas



## Snakes are great!

Snakes play an important role in the Texas ecosystem and are controls for unwanted pests.

SNAKES DON'T HUNT HUMANS! Bites happen when snakes are surprised, cornered, or handled.

Be careful where you put your hands and feet. Never step over a log without first seeing what is on the other side. If you must move a log, use a long stick or garden tool first, to ensure snakes are neither under, on or around these favored habitats.

Wear protective clothing if working in areas where you suspect snakes nearby. Heavy footwear, snake proof trousers and/or leggings will help reduce your risk.

Freeze still when snakes are known to be nearby until you know where they are. Allow the snake to retreat. If you must move, back slowly and carefully away from the snake.





## Snakes are great!

First Aid for snake bites can prevent disability, disfigurement, or death if it is applied effectively. Assume envenomation has occurred even before symptoms appear.

Identify the species of venomous snake, but do not endanger yourself and become a victim, too.

- Keep yourself and the victim calm.
- Know and treat for any symptoms of shock.
- Wash the bite area with a disinfectant soap.
- Remove restrictive clothing or jewelry.
- Prevent movement of the bitten extremity.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible.
- Under no circumstances should you cut between the punctures, or suck the venom out.





# Snakes in DFW

## Observations



Serpentes



Location



Filters

1

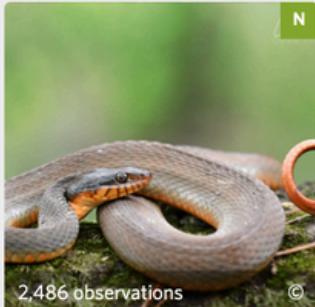
DFW Metroplex

18,508  
OBSERVATIONS

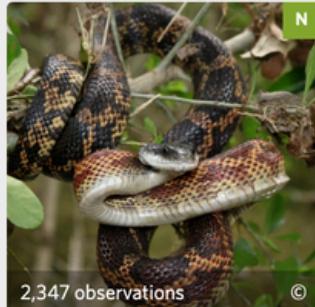
39  
SPECIES

1,841  
IDENTIFIERS

4,621  
OBSERVERS



*Nerodia erythrogaster*  
(Plain-bellied Watersnake)



*Pantherophis obsoletus*  
(Western Ratsnake)



*Haldea striatula*  
(Rough Earthsnake)



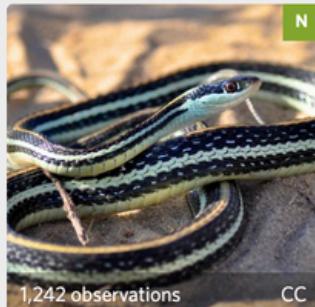
*Opheodrys aestivus*  
(Rough Greensnake)



*Nerodia rhombifer*  
(Diamondback Watersnake)



*Agkistrodon laticinctus*  
(Broad-banded Copperhead)



*Thamnophis proximus*  
(Western Ribbon Snake)



*Storeria dekayi*  
(DeKay's Brownsnake)



*Agkistrodon piscivorus*  
(Northern Cottonmouth)



*Agkistrodon contortrix*  
(Eastern Copperhead)





# Snakes in DFW



552 observations CC

*Coluber constrictor*  
(North American Racer)



339 observations CC

*Nerodia fasciata*  
(Banded Watersnake)



262 observations ©

*Crotalus atrox*  
(Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake)



259 observations CC

*Thamnophis sirtalis*  
(Common Garter Snake)



245 observations CC

*Tropidoclonion lineatum*  
(Lined Snake)



235 observations CC

*Pantherophis emoryi*  
(Great Plains Ratsnake)



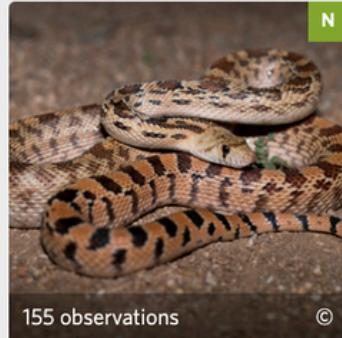
203 observations CC

*Lampropeltis holbrooki*  
(Speckled Kingsnake)



203 observations CC

*Masticophis flagellum*  
(Coachwhip)



155 observations ©

*Pituophis catenifer*  
(Gopher Snake)



118 observations ©

*Rena dulcis*  
(Texas Blind Snake)



# Snakes in DFW

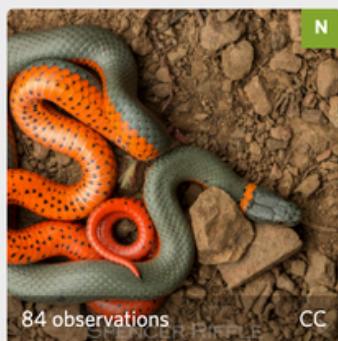


102 observations

N

CC

*Sistrurus tergeminus*  
(Western Massasauga)



84 observations

N

CC

*Diadophis punctatus*  
(Ring-necked Snake)



84 observations

N

CC

*Lampropeltis calligaster*  
(Prairie Kingsnake)



83 observations

N

CC

*Regina grahamii*  
(Graham's Crayfish Snake)



76 observations

N

CC

*Heterodon platirhinos*  
(Eastern Hognose Snake)



39 observations

N

CC

*Tantilla gracilis*  
(Flat-headed Snake)



35 observations

N

CC

*Micruurus tener*  
(Texas Coralsnake)



32 observations

N

CC

*Crotalus horridus*  
(Timber Rattlesnake)



26 observations

N

CC

*Nerodia sipedon*  
(Common Watersnake)



16 observations

N

CC

*Sistrurus miliarius*  
(Pygmy Rattlesnake)

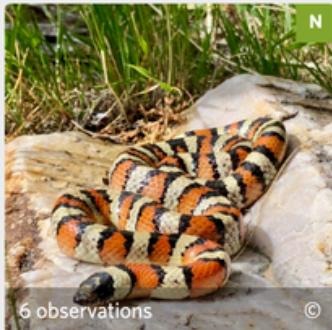




# Snakes in DFW



13 observations ©



6 observations ©



5 observations CC



5 observations CC



4 observations ©



3 observations CC



2 observations ©



1 observation ©



1 observation CC



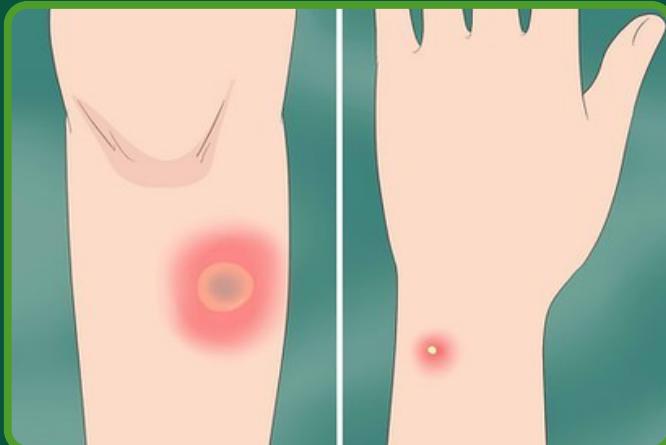
## Spiders are wonderful, but be careful of some



**Brown Recluse (*Loxosceles reclusa*)**



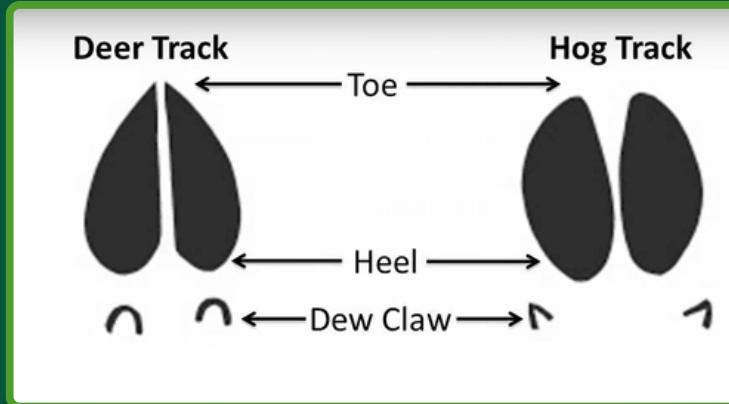
**Black Widow (*Latrodectus sp.*)**



For any spider bite:  
wash  
disinfect  
seek medical attention if it gets worse



# We do have Wild Boars (*Sus scrofa*).



If you encounter a wild boar,  
remain calm and move away slowly.

Leave piglets alone: Sows, or female pigs, are protective of  
their young and can be easily provoked.

If the boar is chasing you, you can run to shelter if the boar is far away. However, boars  
can run up to 30 miles per hour, so running might not work if the boar is close.

If there are trees nearby, you can climb at least seven feet and wait for the boar to move  
away.

Wild boars are generally shy and avoid humans, but they can potentially eat humans if  
they get desperate.





## Routes of exposure to poison ivy

Poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac release an oil, urushiol, when the leaf or other plant parts are bruised, damaged, or burned.

You may be exposed to urushiol through:

- Direct contact with the plant
  - Indirect contact, such as touching tools, people, or clothing that have urushiol on them
  - Inhalation of particles containing urushiol from burning plants (YES, you CAN get poison ivy in your throat!).
- 
- Look for clusters of 3 leaves “Leaves of three, let them be!”
    - Typically the center leaf has a small stem, the other two grow directly on the vine
    - Poison ivy berries are white or cream-colored and remain on the plant through winter and spring
    - Poison ivy variations





# Observations



Toxicodendron



DFW Metroplex



7,014  
OBSERVATIONS



3  
SPECIES



6,540 observations

*Toxicodendron radicans*

(Eastern Poison Ivy)



181 observations

*Toxicodendron pubescens*

(Atlantic Poison Oak)



6 observations

*Toxicodendron rydbergii*

(Western Poison Ivy)



# Wader safety



Students catching some peace at the Elm Fork of the Trinity River Fall 2023



- Be aware of where you are stepping in the water. It may seem uniformly shallow, but could contain deeper sections.
- Walk carefully in the river. Rocks may be slippery from algal growth, it's easy to lose your balance.
- Never enter the water alone, always have a partner
- If you fall into a deep spot and water begins filling up your waders, don't panic. Remove the waders and return to shallow waters.



Welcome to the Ecological Action Studio

Meets every Wednesday 1300 - 1820

ENV 243

Dr. Jaime L. Baxter-Slye

&

Makynzie Cler, Teaching Assistant

Slye's office hours: Thurs 12-2 pm ENV 332  
or [click here to use Slye's bookings page](#)

Mak's office hours are by appt! Just  
send me an email and we will  
coordinate :)



Get involved! <https://linktr.ee/baxterslye>