Bullsnake

Pituophis catenifer sayi* (50-80 in.)

* Formerly Pituophis melanoleucus

Status: Special Concern & Protected Wild Animal

This is Wisconsin's longest heavybodied snake. Its mottled and blotched pattern changes along the length of the snake, often looking like three different snakes connected together. The tail is usually golden with black rings. Blotches along the snake's midsection may vary from black to reddish-brown. The neck region tends to be heavily mottled with black and white. The prominent deep triangular head shape is distinctive. This harmless snake mimics a rattlesnake by shaking its tail in dry vegetation and may hiss loudly when approached. Unlike the timber rattlesnake, the bullsnake has a heavily patterned head and a pointed tail. Bullsnakes live in sand prairies, oak savannas and pine and oak barrens. They feed primarily on small mammals

and are excellent at controlling pocket gopher populations.



A. B. Sheldon

Eastern Milksnake

Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum (24-36 in.)
Status: Common

This snake has a gray or light brown background color with three rows of reddish-brown or brown blotches bordered with black. There is usually a whitish Y or V shaped marking on the top of its head toward the neck. The underside is white with black rectangular markings. Eastern milksnakes live in oak savannas, northern and southern upland hardwoods, prairies, and old woodlots and pastures. They are also often found around farm buildings and older homes with stone foundations, as well as in vacant lots toward the outskirts of municipalities. Adults feed mostly on rodents but will also eat other small snakes.





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