

## HOW TO SAFELY MOVE A MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE

### 1. Materials needed

Large garbage bin with a lid  
Long stick or broom handle



2. Snakes typically flee to protective cover when approached. Rattlesnakes may be captured by placing a large garbage bin on the ground and gently prodding the snake's tail. This will generally persuade the snake to crawl into the bin. This process may take several minutes – be patient to ensure your own safety and that of the snake.



3. When the snake is in the bin, tip the bin upright using the stick.



4. Place a secure lid on the bin and place in a shaded location. Never leave the bin in direct sunlight since this will dangerously overheat the snake.





5. Carefully relocate the snake to suitable habitat within 250 metres from the capture location. Please do not cross a road to find suitable habitat. Place the bin on its side and either gently slide the snake out or allow the snake to leave on its own. The snake will seek safety in plants or rocks. Never try to handle or tease the snake.

**\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\***

Trying to catch a rattlesnake increases the risk of snakebite. Only properly trained individuals should attempt to catch a rattlesnake. If in doubt, do not attempt to capture the snake.