

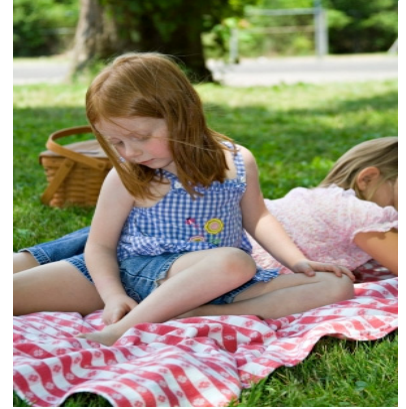


Know Before You Go

Preparing to Visit a National Forest

Bees and Wasps

Bees, wasps, hornets and yellow jackets can be either a minor nuisance or serious danger. Complications are often minor, such as the development of infection at the sting site requiring treatment with antibiotic. However, between one and two million people in the United State are very allergic to stinging insect venom, and may experience a very severe reaction that requires immediate medical attention. Irritation, redness and swelling would be mild reactions. Allergic Reactions include swelling of the lips or throat, breathing problems, faintness or confusion.



Safety Checklist

- If you know you are allergic to a bee, wasp, hornet or yellow jacket sting; carry medication.
- Let others know that you may have an allergic reactions, and that you have medication.
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide) when you're outdoors.
- Treat your clothes with permethrin repellents. Do not use permethrins on your skin.
- Avoid heavy, flowery perfumes; colognes or scents. They may attract bees.
- Never strike or swing at a wasp or a bee.
- Stay away from nests. Do not try to destroy nests.
- Wear light-colored or light-cotton clothing. Avoid bright-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

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