

HAVE YOU SEEN A PINESNAKE?

WHY ARE WE **SEARCHING** FOR THE PINESNAKE?

Pinesnakes (aka bullsnakes) have not been seen in Virginia for the past 30 years. However, we believe these snakes could still be in the state. To learn more, we need your help!

ABOUT PINESNAKES

Pinesnakes are non-venomous and harmless. They provide an excellent service by eating rodents but encountering a Pinesnake can be a bit scary. When Pinesnakes feel threatened, they will hiss loudly and vibrate their tails to scare predators. These snakes like to be underground and will use abandoned burrows.

Photo credit: Jeff Dragon



IDENTIFYING **CHARACTERISTICS** OF A PINESNAKE

- Large, thick bodied
- Pointed nose and head
- Reach up to 66" in length
- Underside is white with dark spots
- White to yellowish body
- Dark black to brown blotches down back and sides
- Blotches are smaller along sides and head

LOOK- ALIKE SNAKES

Eastern Hog-nosed Snakes have an upturned nose and will spread their neck when threatened.

Photo credit: Myles Masterson



Dark blotches near the tail of Juvenile Eastern Ratsnakes have rough edges while blotches on young Pinesnakes have smooth edges.



COMMON **AREAS TO SPOT** A PINESNAKE

- >> Mountain ridges with pines
- >> Abandoned agriculture fields
- >> Areas with sandy soils
- >> Dry rocky areas
- >> Mammal burrows
- >> Old stumps

IF YOU SEE A PINESNAKE,

please do not handle it or remove it from its habitat. We ask only that you take a photo and note the location. Please send photographs and observations to:



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