

# JULY ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

## COMMON KINGSNAKE

PHOTO BY INTERPRETIVE RANGER ERIC HOUGH



### ECO-BLITZ REGISTRATION

<https://bit.ly/ECO-BlitzWebsite>



### LEARN ABOUT THE INATURALIST PROGRAM

<https://bit.ly/MCParksNaturalist>



### QUESTIONS

[maricopacountyparks@maricopa.gov](https://maricopacountyparks@maricopa.gov)

## COMMON KINGSNAKE



Photo by Interpretive Ranger Eric Hough

This month, we're exploring the **Common Kingsnake** (*Lampropeltis getula*). Check out these fun facts:

- Kingsnakes are **smooth, glossy, slender**, and **harmless**, growing up to **3¼ feet in length**, with a striking appearance of **light bands contrasting a dark body**.
- They **can live almost anywhere**, deserts, woodlands, riparian areas, forests and farmlands up to 700 feet in elevation, making them common.
- A **Kingsnake** bites its prey **behind the head, coils its body around the snake to constrict it**, and then **swallows it whole**. Kingsnakes are resistant to rattlesnake venom.

Sources:

- Common Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getulas*). Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Retrieved from [www.desertmuseum.org/books/nhsd\\_kingsnake.php](http://www.desertmuseum.org/books/nhsd_kingsnake.php)