



Watersnake or Cottonmouth?

Which one is found in McHenry County?



The **Northern Watersnake** (*Nerodia sipedon*) is a common non-venomous snake that lives in McHenry County. Adult watersnakes are heavy-bodied and can get quite large. They are often seen basking on docks and fallen tree limbs in and around water. They feed mainly on fish and amphibians. Watersnakes are often mistaken for cottonmouths (water moccasins) even though cottonmouths are not found in northern Illinois.



For more information contact the Wildlife Resource Center at 815.728.8307