### **Snake Capture Services**

#### **Overview**

Botswana Defence Force (BDF) provides snake capture services, in Gaborone and its periphery. With the escalating reports of snakes found in homesteads the BDF has since engaged in assisting members of the community in capturing such dangerous reptiles.

#### **CAUTION:**

- Do not attempt to capture the snakes by yourself
- If you are not in danger do not attempt to kill the snake
- If there is a snake bite:
  - 1. Do not panic but remain calm
  - 2. Do not cut the wound or attempt to remove the venom
  - 3. Immobilise the bitten part and stay as quiet as possible to keep the poison from spreading through your body
  - 4. Remove jewelry before you start to swell
  - 5. Apply a splint to reduce blood movement of the affected area but keep it loose enough so as not to restrict blood flow
  - 6. Don't drink caffeine and alcohol
  - 7. Cleanse the wound but don't flush it with water, cover it with a clean dry cloth
  - 8. Position yourself if possible so that the bite is at or below the level of your heart
  - 9. Don't try to capture the snake but try to remember its type, colour and shape so that you can describe it, which will help in your treatment.
  - 10. Call 998 or seek immediate medical attention

This service is provided 24 hours 7 days a week.

### Who is eligible?

Members of the public in and around Gaborone

## How do I get this service?

Please call Snake Handlers

### What supporting documents are required?

None

## How long will this service take?

Service is treated as an emergency

#### How much does it cost?

P100.00

#### Where can I obtain this service?

Sir Seretse Khama Barracks, Mogoditshane

Snake Handlers:

Landline 3662060 Mobile: 75669120

Duty Field Officer Landline: 3662208

# Where can I get more information on this Service

The Directorate of Protocol and Public Affairs Botswana Defence Force Private Bag X06 Gaborone Botswana

Tel. (+267) 3662802/3662157/3662089

Email: info.bdf@gov.bw