



Insects and Spiders

Summer is the time of year when it is most important to be conscious of the potential dangers of insects and spiders. There are several types of spiders and insects in the Northwest, whose bites and stings can result in allergic reactions and illnesses. These tips will help you recognize which species are dangerous, and how to treat symptoms from bites and stings.

What to Look For:

- Pain, itching, swelling, rash, and hives are all signs of an allergic reaction to a bite or sting from an insect.
- Ticks can transmit disease such as Lyme disease and typhus.
- Black Widow, Yellow Sac, and Hobo spiders are all venomous spider species native to Washington State.
- Symptoms of a bite from a venomous spider include: double fang marks, blue/purple area around the bite, difficulty breathing or moving, nausea and vomiting. If these symptoms occur, seek medical attention immediately.



What You Can Do:

- Always carry an EPI pen with you if you have serious allergies to a type of insect or spider.
- Seek medical attention if symptoms continue and/or worsen.
- If you have been stung or bitten on the arm or leg, lower the limb to prevent the venom from spreading.
- To relieve pain, itching, and swelling, apply an ice pack to the area once every hour for 20 minutes until symptoms fade.

Resources

[ORKIN Household Pest Threats](#)

[Web MD Home Treatments](#)

[Symptoms and Treatments](#)

[Venomous Spiders in Washington](#)

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