

# Spider Bites

Do you think you may have a spider bite? Get the facts...



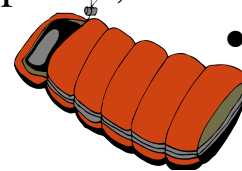
## Is it a spider bite?

- Some people may have real spider bites, however over 80% of these painful, red, swollen sores are actually caused by a skin infection such as MRSA staph infection.
- Washington has over 800 types of spiders. Poisonous ones in our region are relatively rare but include Black Widow and Hobo spiders.
- Symptoms of a Black Widow bite may include a red, possibly painless bite site, sickness, agitation, headache, and high blood pressure.
- Symptoms of a Hobo bite may include a painful, red, very swollen area with a blister developing.



## How to Protect Yourself:

- Use tools when moving logs, leaves, or other outdoor debris where spiders may hide.
- Wear gloves, long sleeves, and long pants when working outside in shade.
- Be careful when setting up camps in areas attractive to spiders, including shady damp places, under bridges, and in wooded areas.
- When camping outdoors, shake out bedding to avoid bites while sleeping.



***People who have spider bites, staph infections, or other red swollen welts, bumps, or abscesses should seek medical attention.***

