



Notice: Swimmers Itch in Area

Swimmer's Itch is a skin rash caused by exposure to certain microscopic parasites that are transmitted through some freshwater birds and mammals to snails.

Organisms do not survive on human skin but can cause a self-limiting allergic reaction. Cases are common during summer months and most do not require medical attention.

Human Symptoms include tingling, burning, or itching of the skin and small reddish pimples or blisters. Excessive scratching may cause secondary infections.

Symptoms may become noticeable within minutes to days after exposure to contaminated water. Swimmer's itch is not contagious and cannot spread person to person.



How you get it



Freshwater snails release microscopic parasites into water.



Microscopic parasites are typically found in shallow water waiting for contact with a wildlife host.



Swimming or wading in contaminated water can result in contact with microscopic parasites.

Prevention

- ✓ Avoid swimming in areas where swimmer's itch is present.
- ✓ Avoid marshy areas where snails are commonly found.
- ✓ Avoid wearing wet bathing suits after leaving water.
- ✓ Towel dry or shower immediately after leaving water.



Swim at your own risk. Swimmer's itch is self-limiting and treatment is symptomatic, but symptoms can last for up to a week or more.