

# Sheet Metal Predator Guard

Whatever size outside diameter pipe the guard is to wrap around, the center hole needs to be cut an additional 1/4" diameter. For example: if the martin house pipe is 1-1/2" the center hole should be cut 1-3/4". The little 1/2" notch cut directly across from the slit from center to outside edge is very important to allow proper overlapping.

Starting directly across from the notch, two straight angle cuts should be made to outside edge: start with a narrow gap (about 1/8") in center and wind up with a 3-1/2" gap on outside edge; this should allow near perfect overlapping.

Be sure the slope is three to four inches on the finished guard. The slope is very important for protecting against snakes.

A clamp (either purchased from Nature House or a muffler clamp) should be placed around the pipe above and beneath the guard to hold it in place.

- 1. Drill hole *after* overlapping the edges.**
- 2. Clamp edges with vice-grips or pliers while drilling.**
- 3. Use 3/16" bit or #10 bit (which is slightly larger).**
- 4. Use 10-24x1/2" machine screws (may be called 3/16" diameter) with nuts and lock washers for maximum strength.**

Use a flat, inverted metal cone with an 18-inch radius (36-inch diameter). Position on your martin house pole. An example is shown below. This guard is fairly simple to make; any home handyman or metal working shop should be able to produce one at a reasonable cost.

