

**SPECIALIZED FAMILY CARE  
Provider Training**

Category:	<b>Safety</b>
Title:	<b>Poison Prevention Safety</b>
Materials:	Handouts from American Association of Poison Control; Security World; National Poison Control Center
Goal:	Provider prevents harm from poisons in the home
Credit Hours:	1 Hour
Date Developed:	January 2008
Developed by:	Michele Mount, Family Based Care Specialist

This skill-building instruction has been approved for Specialized Family Care Provider training by:

Pat Snuss November, 2010  
Specialized Family Care Program Manager Date

**Training Objectives:**

- Provider knows what constitutes poisoning
- Provider can identify common household poisons
- Provider knows poison prevention safety tips

**Training Procedures:**

- Provider initiated self-study
- Test completed by Provider
- Review of test responses by Family Based Care Specialist and Provider

I certify that I have completed all the materials associated with this training module. I have a basic understanding of the material completed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Specialized Family Care Provider Date

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Based Care Specialist Date

This Program is funded by the WV Department of Health & Human Resources, Bureau for Children & Families and administered by the Center for Excellence in Disabilities, West Virginia University.

# EVALUATION QUESTIONS

## POISON PREVENTION & SAFETY

1. What is a poison?

2. Poisons can be \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_.

3. Poisons never come in pretty colors or smell good.

True      False

4. Poisons are found only in your kitchen or bathroom.

True      False

5. If you think someone has been poisoned, call the Poison Center.

True      False

6. What is the Poison Center's phone number? \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Name at least 10 of the common household poisons which you have in your home.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Name 5 of the most hazardous household poisons.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

9. Medicines and products should be stored in their original containers.

True

False

10. Read and follow the directions and warnings on the label before taking any medicine.

True

False

# National Capital Poison Center



## The Most Common Poisons for Children and Adults

### SEND SINGING CARD

### ► PREVENT POISONINGS

Household poisons

Tips for poison prevention

Inhalant Abuse

Holiday Food Safety

Summer safety quiz

Most common poisons

Most dangerous poisons

Brochure

Plants

Poison Prevention Week

Poisoning statistics

TV PSA's

Preschool ed program

Elementary ed program

Adult education program

Poison Prevention Posters

### BE PREPARED

### ACT FAST

### ABOUT US

### BILINGUAL INFO

### OTHER POISON CENTERS

### CASE STUDIES

### CURRENT ISSUES

### HOSPITAL SUPPORTERS

### MAKE A DONATION

### LINKS

### SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER



Learn the Poison  
Prevention Jingles!

### FEEDBACK

### FOR KIDS, BY KIDS

### COURSE REGISTRATION

### MED TOX FELLOWSHIP

#### The most common poisons among children are:

- cosmetics and personal care products
- cleaning substances
- pain medicine/fever-reducers
- coins, thermometers
- plants
- diaper care, acne preparations, antiseptics
- cough and cold preparations
- pesticides
- vitamins
- gastrointestinal preparations
- antimicrobials
- arts, crafts and office supplies
- antihistamines
- hormones and hormone antagonists (diabetes medications, contraceptives)
- hydrocarbons (lamp oil, kerosene, gasoline, lighter fluid)

#### The most common poisons among adults are:

- pain medicine
- sedatives, hypnotics, antipsychotics
- cleaning substances
- antidepressants
- bites and envenomations
- alcohols
- food products and food poisoning
- cosmetics and personal care products
- chemicals
- pesticides
- cardiovascular drugs
- fumes, gases, vapors
- hydrocarbons
- antihistamines
- anticonvulsants
- antimicrobials
- stimulants and street drugs
- plants
- cough and cold preparations





## American Association of Poison Control Centers

Poison Emergency? Call 1-800-222-1222

Questions about Poisons? Call 1-800-222-1222

Questions about Poison Prevention? Call 1-800-222-1222

### First Aid for Poisoning

What is a Poison?

Poison Centers

1-800-222-1222

Prevent CO Poisoning

Summer Safety Quiz

Adult tips

Child tips

Teen tips

Brochure

TV announcement

New PSAs

Adult Education Program

Preschool Educ Program

New Posters

Poison proof your home

Order materials

### Poisoning Statistics

National Poison  
Prevention Week

About the AAPCC

Press Room

FAQs

Links



Learn the Poison  
Prevention Jingles!

### Poison Tips for Children

#### What is a poison?

- A poison is something that makes you sick or hurts you if you eat, drink, touch or smell it.
- Poisons can be SOLID. Solid poisons can be chunky or chewy like pills, batteries, plants, and berries.
- Poisons can be LIQUID. Liquid poisons can be creamy, blobby, or like water. They can be any color. Some liquid poisons are floor cleaners, antifreeze for the car, cough syrup (if you take too much), and lamp oil.
- Poisons can be SPRAYS. They can be in a spray can or bottle. The spray can get in your eyes or in your lungs if you breathe it. Some kinds of spray poisons are furniture polish and bug spray.
- Poisons can be INVISIBLE. You can't see it, or smell it, or touch it. Invisible poison can be found almost anywhere that something is burning. It can be mixed in with smoke or can come out of the back of a car or bus when the engine is running.

#### What does a poison look like?

- A poison can come in pretty colors. It can come in many shapes and sizes. It can be invisible. A poison can smell good. It can also taste good. A poison can even look like something good to eat or drink.

#### How can you get poisoned?

- You can get poisoned by eating, drinking, touching, or smelling something that can make you sick or hurt you. Some things, like medicine, can make you sick if you take the wrong kind, or if you take too much. Always ask a trusted grown-up before you take any medicine. Never put anything in your mouth if you are not sure if it is safe to eat. Ask a grown-up first!

#### Where are poisons found?

- Poisons are everywhere. They can be found in your garage, in your kitchen, in your bathroom, or in any room in your home. They can even be found in Grandma's purse! Poisons can be found outside, like some plants, berries and mushrooms.

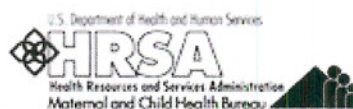
#### What can you do if someone gets poisoned?

- If you think you got into a poison, tell a grown-up right away! They will call the Poison Center. The Poison Center will tell them how to help you. If you think your Mom or Dad, or your brother or sister, or even your friend got into a poison, you can call the Poison Center too. Learn the Poison Center's phone number: **1-800-222-1222** and make sure you have the number of the Poison Center on or near the telephones in your house.

#### **How can you stay safe from poison?**

- If you don't know what something is, do not put it in your mouth. Always ask a trusted grown-up first.
- Never take medicine unless a grown-up gives it to you.
- Some plants and berries are poisonous. Always ask a grown-up before you put them in your mouth.
- Always let grown-ups use spray cans and bottles. You should not touch or play with them!
- Stay away from things used to clean your house, clothes or car.

For more poison prevention and first aid information call **1-800-222-1222**.



This sheet is made available through the financial support of Health Resources and Services Administration Maternal Child Health Bureau.

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## Common Household Poisons

**Location:** Home > Information Center > Safety at Home

The following is a list of the more common poisonous products found in this list, and you are unsure about its safety, please contact your local Po

### Common Household Poisons

The following is a list of the more common poisonous products found in your home you are unsure about its safety, please contact your local Poison Control Center.

- Acids
- Aerosol Cans
- All drugs and Pills
- Ammonia
- Antifreeze
- Antiseptics
- Ant Poison
- Aspirin
- Automotive Products
- Batteries
- Bleach
- Boric Acid Bubble Bath
- Carpet and Upholstery Cleaners
- Chemical Strips
- Cleansers
- Colognes
- Cosmetics
- Creams
- Degreasers
- Deodorants
- Dish Detergents
- Drain Cleaners
- Engine Additives
- Epoxy Glues
- Fertilizers
- Flaking Paint
- Furniture Polish
- Garden Sprays
- Gasoline
- Gun Cleaners
- Hair Care Products
- Hair Dyes
- Hair Remover
- Herbicides
- Insulation
- Iodine
- Iron Tablets
- Jewelry Cleaner
- Kerosene
- Lamp Oil
- Laundry Detergents
- Lighter Fluids
- Lime
- Lotions
- Lye
- Metal Cleaners
- Moth Balls
- Nail Polish/Remover
- Oven Cleaner
- Pain Relievers
- Paint
- Paint Remover
- Paint Thinner
- Perfumes
- Permanent Wave Solutions
- Peroxides
- Pesticides
- Pet Food
- Petroleum Products
- Pills
- Pine Oil
- Plant Food
- Plants
- Pool Cleaners
- Powder Detergents
- Rodent Poison
- Room Deodorizers
- Rubbing Alcohol
- Rust Remover
- Scouring Powders
- Septic Tank Cleaners
- Shampoo
- Shaving Lotion
- Shoe Polish
- Sleeping Pills
- Stain
- Starter Fluid
- Suntan Lotion

- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Tranquilizers
- Turpentine
- Varnish
- Waxes
- Weed Killers
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- Windshield Washer Fluid
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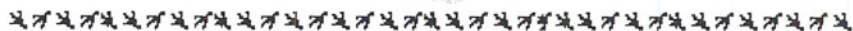
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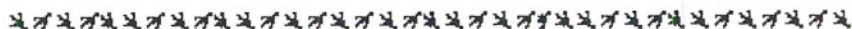


### Common Household Poisons

Acetone	Linoleum (contains lead salts)
Ammonia	Matches
Antifreeze	Model glue
Ant syrup or paste	Mothballs
Arsenic	Muriatic acid
Bathroom bowl cleaner	Mushrooms (some varieties)
Bleach	Nail Polish
Boric acid	Nail polish remover
Camphophenique	Oven cleaner
Carbon tetrachloride	Paint
Charcoal lighter	Paint remover
Clinitest tablets	Paint thinner
Copper and brass cleaners	Perfume
Corn and wart remover	Permanent wave solutions
Crayons	Pesticides
Deodorants	Photographic solutions
Detergents	Pine oil
Disinfectants	Plants
Drain cleaners	Prescription and non-prescription drugs
Epoxy glue	Red squill
Fabric softeners	Rodenticides
Garbage toxins	Rubbing alcohol
Garden sprays	Shaving lotion
Gasoline	Silver polish
Gun cleaner	Snail bait
Gunpowder	Spot remover
Hair dyes	Spray starch
Herbicides	Strychnine
Hexachlorophene (in some soaps)	Sulphuric acid
Indelible markers	Suntan lotion
Insecticides	Super glue
Iodine	Turpentine
Kerosene	Weed killers
Lighter fluid	Window cleaners

Source: Adapted from Gary Gallerstein, *Bird Owner's Home Health and Care Handbook* (New York: Howell Book House, 1984); Sheldon Gerstenfeld, *The Bird Care Book* (Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1981); and Margaret L. Petrak, ed., *Diseases of Cage and Aviary Birds*, 2nd ed. Philadelphia, Lea and Febiger, 1982

[Top](#)   [Common Poisonous Substances](#)   [Plants Harmful to Birds](#)



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[The Bird Center](#)

# National Capital Poison Center



## Household Poisons

### The Yuckiest Poisons

#### SEND SINGING CARD

#### ► PREVENT POISONINGS

Household poisons

Tips for poison prevention

Inhalant Abuse

Holiday Food Safety

Summer safety quiz

Most common poisons

Most dangerous poisons

Brochure

Plants

Poison Prevention Week

Poisoning statistics

TV PSA's

Preschool ed program

Elementary ed program

Adult education program

Poison Prevention Posters

#### BE PREPARED

#### ACT FAST

#### ABOUT US

#### BILINGUAL INFO

#### OTHER POISON CENTERS

#### CASE STUDIES

#### CURRENT ISSUES

#### HOSPITAL SUPPORTERS

#### MAKE A DONATION

#### LINKS

#### SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER



Learn the Poison  
Prevention Jingles!

#### FEEDBACK

#### FOR KIDS, BY KIDS

#### COURSE REGISTRATION

#### MED TOX FELLOWSHIP

- These are especially hazardous household items. Buy small quantities. Discard unneeded extras. Make sure they are **always** out of a child's reach.
  - antifreeze
  - windshield washer solutions
  - drain cleaners
  - toilet bowl cleaners
  - insecticides
  - artificial nail removers
  - topical anesthetics (i.e. Products that may be used for sunburn pain)
  - medicines, medicines, medicines.
- Did you know that even these common household items can poison little children?
  - detergents
  - automatic dishwasher detergents
  - furniture polish
  - perfume & aftershave
  - mouthwash
  - gasoline, kerosene, and lamp oil
  - paint and paint thinner
  - mothballs
  - alcoholic beverages
  - [miniature batteries](#)
  - flaking paint
  - cigarettes, tobacco products
  - rat and mouse poison



# National Capital Poison Center



## The Most Dangerous Poisons for Children

The most dangerous poisons for children include the following. Be sure to check the [poison prevention tips](#) to protect your loved ones.

### SEND SINGING CARD

#### ▶ PREVENT POISONINGS

Household poisons  
 Tips for poison prevention  
 Inhalant Abuse  
 Holiday Food Safety  
 Summer safety quiz  
 Most common poisons  
 Most dangerous poisons  
 Brochure  
 Plants  
 Poison Prevention Week  
 Poisoning statistics  
 TV PSA's  
 Preschool ed program  
 Elementary ed program  
 Adult education program  
 Poison Prevention Posters

### BE PREPARED

### ACT FAST

### ABOUT US

### BILINGUAL INFO

### OTHER POISON CENTERS

### CASE STUDIES

### CURRENT ISSUES

### HOSPITAL SUPPORTERS

### MAKE A DONATION

### LINKS

### SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER



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Prevention Jingles!

### FEEDBACK

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### COURSE REGISTRATION

### MED TOX FELLOWSHIP

▶ **Medicines:** these are OK in the right amount for the right person. They can be dangerous for children who take the wrong medicine or swallow too much.

▶ **Iron pills:** adult-strength iron pills are very dangerous for children to swallow. Children can start throwing up blood or having bloody diarrhea in less than an hour.

▶ **Cleaning products** that cause chemical burns: these can be just as bad as burns from fire. Products that cause chemical burns include drain openers, toilet bowl cleaners, rust removers, and oven cleaners.

▶ **Nail glue remover and nail primer:** some products used for artificial nails can be poisonous in surprising ways. Some nail glue removers have caused cyanide poisoning when swallowed by children. Some nail primers have caused burns to the skin and mouth of children who tried to drink them.

▶ **Hydrocarbons:** this is a broad category that includes gasoline, kerosene, lamp oil, motor oil, lighter fluid, furniture polish, and paint thinner. These liquids are easy to choke on if someone tries to swallow them. If that happens, they can go down the wrong way, into the lungs instead of the stomach. If they get into someone's lungs, they make it hard to breathe. They can also cause lung inflammation (like pneumonia). Hydrocarbons are among the leading causes of poisoning death in children.

▶ **Pesticides:** chemicals to kill bugs and other pests must be used carefully to keep from harming humans. Many pesticides can be absorbed through skin. Many can also enter the body by breathing in the fumes. Some can affect the nervous system and can make it hard to breathe.

▶ **Windshield washer solution and antifreeze:** Small amounts of these liquids are poisonous to humans and pets. Windshield washer solution can cause blindness and death if swallowed. Antifreeze can cause kidney failure and death if swallowed.

▶ **Wild mushrooms:** many types of mushrooms grow in many areas of the country. Some are deadly to eat. Only experts in mushroom identification can tell the difference between poisonous mushrooms and safe mushrooms.

▶ **Alcohol:** when children swallow alcohol, they can have seizures, go into a coma, or even die. This is true no matter where the alcohol comes from. Mouthwash, facial cleaners, and hair tonics can have as much alcohol in them as alcoholic beverages.



# National Capital Poison Center



## Even Plants Can Be Poisonous

Learn the names of your plants and label them. Below is a list of some of the more common indoor and outdoor plants that you may have in you home. This list is definitely not a complete list. If you have a plant around your home that is not on the list, you may call the Poison Center to find out how poisonous it may be. You must know either the common name or the botanical name in order for the Poison Center to determine if it is poisonous. It is not possible to do plant or berry identifications over the phone, so check with a nursery for identification of all unknown plants. Carefully supervise children playing near poisonous plants. Call immediately if a child samples a mushroom or possibly poisonous plant.



Click on one of the banners above to see a list of plants in the group.



To view a photograph of a specific type of plant click on the name of the plant in the list. Please note some plants have two photos.



### Non-Poisonous Plants

Common Name	Botanical Name
African violet	<i>Saintpaulia ionantha</i>
<a href="#">Begonia</a>	<i>Begonia</i>
Christmas cactus	<i>Schlumbergera Bridgesii</i>
<a href="#">Coleus</a>	<i>Coleus</i>
<a href="#">Dandelion</a>	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Dracaena	<i>Dracaena</i>
<a href="#">Forsythia</a>	<i>Forsythia</i>
<a href="#">Impatiens</a>	<i>Impatiens</i>
<a href="#">Jade</a>	<i>Crassula argentea</i>
<a href="#">Marigold Calendula</a>	<i>Tagetes</i>

- SEND SINGING CARD
- ▶ PREVENT POISONINGS
- Household poisons
- Tips for poison prevention
- Inhalant Abuse
- Holiday Food Safety
- Summer safety quiz
- Most common poisons
- Most dangerous poisons
- Brochure
- Plants
- Poison Prevention Week
- Poisoning statistics
- TV PSA's
- Preschool ed program
- Elementary ed program
- Adult education program
- Poison Prevention Posters
- BE PREPARED
- ACT FAST
- ABOUT US
- BILINGUAL INFO
- OTHER POISON CENTERS
- CASE STUDIES
- CURRENT ISSUES
- HOSPITAL SUPPORTERS
- MAKE A DONATION
- LINKS
- SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER
- Learn the Poison Prevention Jingles!
- FEEDBACK
- FOR KIDS, BY KIDS
- COURSE REGISTRATION
- MED TOX FELLOWSHIP

<a href="#">Petunia</a>	<i>Petunia</i>
<a href="#">Poinsettia</a>	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> * (may cause irritation only)
<a href="#">Rose</a>	<i>Rosa</i>
Spider plant	<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>
Swedish ivy	<i>Plectranthus australis</i>
Wandering Jew	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>
<a href="#">Wild strawberry</a>	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>



### Poisonous Plants

Common Name	Botanical Name
<a href="#">Azalea, rhododendron</a>	<i>Rhododendron</i>
<a href="#">Caladium</a>	<i>Caladium</i>
<a href="#">Castor bean</a>	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
<a href="#">Daffodil</a>	<i>Narcissus</i>
Deadly nightshade	<i>Atropa belladonna</i>
Dumbcane	<i>Dieffenbachia</i>
<a href="#">Elephant Ear</a>	<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>
<a href="#">Foxglove</a>	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Fruit pits and seeds	contain: cyanogenic glycosides
Holly	<i>Ilex</i>
<a href="#">Iris</a>	<i>Iris</i>
<a href="#">Jerusalem cherry</a>	<i>Solanum pseudocapsicum</i>
<a href="#">Jimson weed</a>	<i>Datura stramonium</i>
<a href="#">Lantana</a>	<i>Lantana camara</i>
<a href="#">Lily-of-the-valley</a>	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>
<a href="#">Mayapple</a>	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i>
Morning glory	<i>Ipomoea</i>
<a href="#">Mountain laurel</a>	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
Nightshade	<i>Solanum spp.</i>



<a href="#">Oleander</a>	<i>Nerium oleander</i>
<a href="#">Peace lily</a>	<i>Spathiphyllum</i>
<a href="#">Philodendron</a>	<i>Philodendron</i>
<a href="#">Pokeweed</a>	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>
<a href="#">Pothos</a>	<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>
<a href="#">Yew</a>	<i>Taxus</i>



Mushrooms



Any amount of any wild mushroom is considered to be very dangerous. Please call the Poison Center immediately if anyone ingests any part of a mushroom picked from a yard or the woods. If you have any pieces of the actual mushroom that was eaten you will be asked to save it in a brown paper bag. Many mushrooms can look identical but be very different.

Remember the phrase:

*There are bold mushroom hunters and there are old mushroom hunters, but there are no old bold mushroom hunters. --- A wise person*

[Home](#) | [Site Map](#) | [About Us](#)

National Capital Poison Center, 3201 New Mexico Ave, Suite 310, Washington, DC 20016   **EMERGENCY:** 1-800-222-1222



# National Capital Poison Center



## Poison Prevention Tips

### Storage Tips:

- Store medicines and products in their original containers.
- Lock medicines and household products where children cannot see or reach them.
- Use child-resistant packaging. Replace the caps tightly.
- Store household products in a different place from food and medicine.
- Keep purses and briefcases out of children's reach.

### Prevent Poisoning from Medicines:

- Read the label before taking or giving medicine.
- Use medicine only as directed by your doctor or the label.
- Call medicine by its proper name, not "candy".
- Take medicine in a place where children cannot watch, because children learn by imitating adults.

### Prevent Poisoning from Products and Plants:

- Use household products according to label directions. Mixing household products can cause dangerous gases to form.
- Keep house plants out of children's reach. Even if the plants are not poisonous, they might cause choking.

### Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

- Keep appliances, furnaces, fireplaces, and wood-burning stoves in good repair.
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm.

### General Poison Prevention Tips:

- When answering the phone or the door, take open products (or your children!) with you.
- Put the poison center number **1-800-222-1222** on or near your phone.
- Be sure that every home where your child spends time is poison-proofed.



### For other tips, click the following links.

- [Adult tips](http://www.1-800-222-1222.info) (external link to [www.1-800-222-1222.info](http://www.1-800-222-1222.info))
- [Teen tips](http://www.1-800-222-1222.info) (external link to [www.1-800-222-1222.info](http://www.1-800-222-1222.info))
- [Child tips](http://www.1-800-222-1222.info) (external link to [www.1-800-222-1222.info](http://www.1-800-222-1222.info))

### SEND SINGING CARD

### ► PREVENT POISONINGS

Household poisons

Tips for poison prevention

Inhalant Abuse

Holiday Food Safety

Summer safety quiz

Most common poisons

Most dangerous poisons

Brochure

Plants

Poison Prevention Week

Poisoning statistics

TV PSA's

Preschool ed program

Elementary ed program

Adult education program

Poison Prevention Posters

### BE PREPARED

### ACT FAST

### ABOUT US

### BILINGUAL INFO

### OTHER POISON CENTERS

### CASE STUDIES

### CURRENT ISSUES

### HOSPITAL SUPPORTERS

### MAKE A DONATION

### LINKS

### SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER



Learn the Poison  
Prevention Jingles!

### FEEDBACK

### FOR KIDS, BY KIDS

### COURSE REGISTRATION

### MED TOX FELLOWSHIP

- o [Pet tips](#)
- o [Tips in Spanish \(Consejos para Prevenir Envenenamientos e Intoxicaciones\)](#)

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[Home](#) | [Site Map](#) | [About Us](#)

National Capital Poison Center, 3201 New Mexico Ave, Suite 310, Washington, DC 20016 **EMERGENCY:** 1-800-222-1222





## American Association of Poison Control

Poison Emergency? Call 1-800-222-1222

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What is a Poison?

Poison Centers

1-800-222-1222

Prevent CO Poisoning

Summer Safety Quiz

Adult tips

Child tips

Teen tips

Brochure

TV announcement

New PSAs

Adult Education Program

Preschool Educ Program

New Posters

Poison proof your home

Order materials

### Poisoning Statistics

National Poison  
Prevention Week

About the AAPCC

Press Room

FAQs

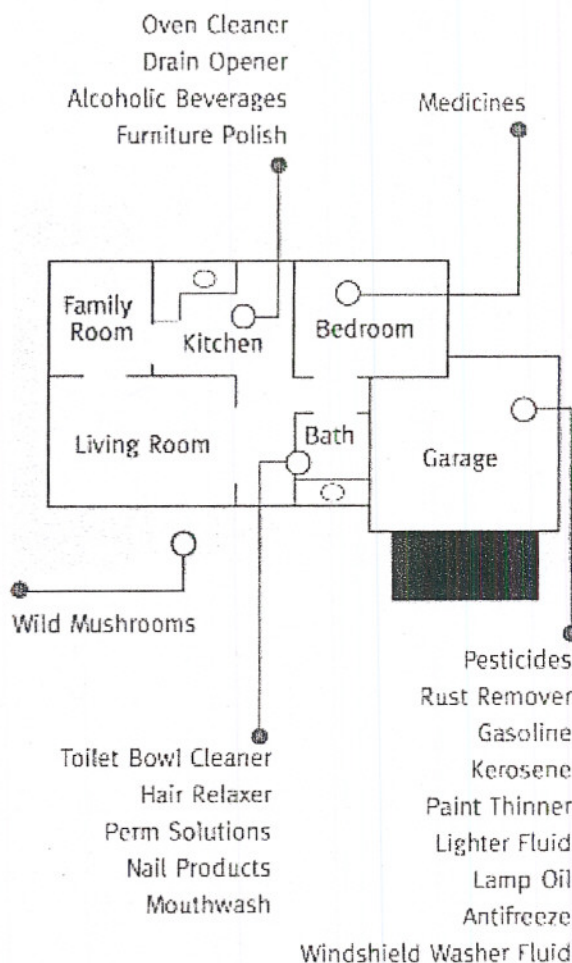
Links



Learn the Poison  
Prevention Jingles!

## You Can Prevent Poisonings at Home

Products and medicines can hurt you if they are used the wrong way, in the wrong amount, or by the wrong person.



Have a question? All questions about poisons are smart questions.  
Ask FIRST to prevent a poisoning! Call **1-800-222-1222**

[Prevent Poisonings at Home \(PDF\)](#)





## American Association of Poison Control Centers

Poison Emergency? Call **1-800-222-1222**

Questions about Poisons? Call **1-800-222-1222**

Questions about Poison Prevention? Call **1-800-222-1222**

### First Aid for Poisoning

What is a Poison?

Poison Centers

1-800-222-1222

Prevent CO Poisoning  
Summer Safety Quiz

Adult tips

Child tips

Teen tips

Brochure

TV announcement

New PSAs

Adult Education Program

Preschool Educ Program

New Posters

Poison proof your home

Order materials

### Poisoning Statistics

National Poison  
Prevention Week

About the AAPCC

Press Room

FAQs

Links



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### Poison Tips for Adults

It is not uncommon for adults to become victims of an unintentional poisoning. Follow the tips below and prevent needless poisonings.

#### Household and Chemical Products

- Keep potential poisons in their original containers.
- DO NOT use food containers such as cups or bottles to store household and chemical products.
- Store food and household and chemical products in separate areas. Mistaken identity could cause a serious poisoning.
- Read and follow the directions and caution labels on household and chemical products before using them.
- Never mix household and chemical products together. A poisonous gas may be created when mixing chemicals.
- Turn on fans and open windows when using household and chemical products.
- When spraying household and chemical products, make sure the spray nozzle is directed away from your face and other people. Wear protective clothing--long sleeve shirts, long pants, socks, shoes and gloves--when spraying pesticides and other chemicals. Pesticides can be absorbed through the skin and can be extremely poisonous. Stay away from areas that have recently been sprayed.
- Never sniff containers to discover what is inside.
- Discard old or outdated household and chemical products. First aid instructions on product containers may be incorrect or outdated.

Call **1-800-222-1222** if an exposure occurs. Keep the telephone number on or near your telephone.

#### Medicine

- Read and follow the directions and warnings on the label before taking any medicine. If you have any questions about the intended use of your medicine, contact your doctor.
- Some medicines are dangerous when mixed with alcohol. Consult your doctor or pharmacist.
- Be aware of potential drug interactions. Some medicines interact dangerously with food or with other medicines. Your doctor should be made aware of all medicines, prescription or over-the-counter, you are currently taking.
- Talk to your doctor before taking any natural or herbal supplements.

- Never take medicines in the dark.
- Old and outdated medicines should be flushed down the toilet.
- Some medications can become dangerous or ineffective over time.
- Never share prescription medicines. Medicines should be taken by the person prescribed and for the reason prescribed.

Keep your local Poison Control Center telephone number, **1-800-222-1222**, on or near your telephone.

This site is optimized to work with Internet Explorer 5.5 or Netscape Communicator 6.2, or higher. If some parts of the site don't work correctly, you can follow the links below to upgrade your Browser: Internet Explorer or Netscape Communicator.

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## REMEMBER.....



Your pets can be poisoned, too. Follow the same poison prevention tips given for children to protect your animals. The following are some additional poison prevention tips specifically for your pet:

- Never give your pet any medications unless specifically instructed to do so by a veterinarian. Many human medications can have dire consequences for animals, even in small amounts.
- Never give your dog chocolate. Dogs are particularly sensitive to chocolate and it is considered extremely poisonous for dogs.
- Be aware of your household plants. Many common household plants can cause kidney damage to your pets if ingested.
- Keep all medications out of an animal's reach, even they can get into a closed medicine bottle.
- Keep hydrogen peroxide available in case you need to make your pet vomit due to a poisoning. Do not give the peroxide unless instructed to do so by a veterinarian or a Poison Center.
- When treating your animal for ticks and fleas, read all product labels before you begin. Follow the safety recommendations given for you and your animal.
- Hose down areas in your driveway or garage in which chemicals have been drained or leaked. A small amount of many chemicals can be fatal to an animal.
- Be aware of neighborhood poisons that may be lurking for your pet
  - Slug or snail baits put out in gardens
  - yards or gardens recently treated with insecticides
  - mushrooms or outdoor plants
  - rat and mouse poisons
  - snakes and frogs (frogs may be very poisonous if eaten by a pet)