

# MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

## NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK (March 15 – 21, 2021)

In 1961, Congress established National Poison Prevention Week to raise awareness, reduce unintentional poisonings, and promote poison prevention. This week is an opportunity to highlight the dangers of poisonings for people of all ages and promote community involvement in poisoning prevention.

### What Are Some Safety Tips to Help Prevent Poisoning at Home?

- Keep medicines in their original containers, properly labeled, and stored appropriately.
- Install a carbon monoxide detector in your home. Check or replace the battery regularly.
- Make sure children use school art products safely by reading and following directions because some art products are mixtures of chemicals.
- Wash skin after contact with chemicals. Clean equipment. Wipe tables, desks, and counters.
- Clean hands and counters before preparing all food.
- Refrigerate leftovers within two hours to reduce the risk of bacterial growth. Consume or freeze within 3-4 days.
- Learn to identify poisonous mushrooms and plants. Remember when it comes to poison ivy, "leaves of three, let it be."



### What Should You Do During a Poisoning Emergency?

- Dial **911** if the person is not breathing.
- Get the victim fresh air right away if the person inhaled poison.
- Take off any clothing the poison contacted if the person has poison on the skin and rinse skin with running water for 15 to 20 minutes.
- Stay calm. Not all medicines, chemicals, or household products are poisonous and not all contact with poison results in poisoning.
- Keep the container of the product you think caused the poisoning nearby because the label has important information.
- Be ready to provide information (person's age, weight, health condition, product involved, etc.) to the expert on the phone.



Remember, if you suspect that you or someone you know has been poisoned, immediately call the toll-free Poison Help line (**1-800-222-1222**), which connects you to your local poison center. This expert can give you advice on first aid and may save a family member's life.

**POISON**  
**Help**  
1-800-222-1222



**Risk Management 639-5249**  
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