

MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK (March 20 – 26, 2016)

National Poison Prevention Week, the third week in March each year, is a week nationally designated to highlight the dangers of poisonings. More than 90 percent of the time, poisonings happen in people's homes. In honor of this awareness week, help protect your family from poison dangers by following these home safety tips.

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

- Keep medicines in their original containers, properly labeled, and stored appropriately.
- Have a working carbon monoxide detector in your home and locate near bedrooms and furnaces.
- Keep household products in their original containers and avoid storing household cleaners in food containers.
- Install safety latches on cabinets used for medicines and household products to prevent children access.
- Make sure children use school art products safely by reading and following directions because some art products are mixtures of chemicals.
- Do not eat or drink while using chemical products.
- Wash skin after contact with chemicals. Clean equipment. Wipe tables, desks, and counters.
- Clean hands and counters before preparing all food.
- Store food at the proper temperatures. Refrigerated foods should not be left out at temperatures above 40 degrees F (5 degrees C).
- Use clean utensils for cooking and serving.
- Check the label on any insect repellent. Be aware that most contain [DEET](#), which can be poisonous in large quantities.
- 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.
- Do not wait for signs of poisoning before calling Poison Help.
- **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



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