



KEEP YOUR HOME AND FAMILY SAFE FROM HARMFUL SUBSTANCES!

Nationally, about 100,000 children will be poisoned accidentally this year, and most of these poisonings will occur as a direct result of adult carelessness about poisonous household substances. Remember that "Childproof" caps are not childproof. Children can find a way to open them. Install safety locks on all medicine cabinets, drawers and cupboards where harmful substances are stored. These substances include:

- prescription medicine
- over-the-counter drugs and vitamins
- cleaning supplies
- household chemicals
- painting supplies
- automotive fluids and oils
- insecticides, pesticides and herbicides

Poison Prevention Tips:

- Teach toddlers and young children to "always ask first" before touching or sampling something new.
- Store household chemicals away from food to prevent contamination. Keep cleaning products and medications out of the kitchen.
- Do not take medications in front of children. They may wish to mimic you, especially if the medication is designed to make you "feel better." Never tell a child medicine tastes like candy.
- When taking or giving medicines at night, turn on a light to see what is being administered. Be sure all medicines, cosmetics and personal care products are stored out of children's reach and not in nightstands or on dresser tops.
- Dispose of old medications by flushing them down the toilet. Other items, such as shampoo and mouthwash should be stored away from children because of their attractive smells and high alcohol content.
- After adults have a party, all smoking materials including butts and ashes should be extinguished and discarded. All unfinished alcoholic beverages should be poured down the drain. Tobacco products and alcoholic drinks, even in small amounts, are dangerous to children and pets.
- The garage and storage areas can contain weed killer, fertilizer, window cleaner, car wax, paint products, pool chemicals, antifreeze and other harmful substances. Place them out of a child's reach and store them in their original, labeled container.
- When a chemical container is empty, rinse it out with water and replace the cap before throwing it away in a covered trash can.
- Know the names of the plants in your garden and lawn. Keep a list handy in case a child or pet ingests one. Remember, even common houseplants may be harmful or deadly when swallowed.

For emergencies, dial 9-1-1; Samaritan Regional Poison Control Center: 602-253-3334 or Statewide Poison Control Center: 800-362-0101.