

Poisoning Prevention



Know the facts:

About once every seven minutes a child received emergency room treatment for unintentional poisoning in 2003. In 2002, more than 1.2 million unintentional poisonings among children ages five and under were reported to U.S. Poison Control Centers. Nearly 90 percent of all poisonings occur in the home. Children are at significantly greater risk from poisoning death and exposure than adults because they are smaller, have faster metabolic rates, and are less able to physically handle toxic chemicals. Also, their curiosity and desire to put everything in their mouths increases their poisoning risk.

Single nationwide phone number for poison control

When you call 1-800-222-1222 from anywhere in the U.S., Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands, you're automatically connected to the nearest poison control center. America's poison centers are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week to help you.



Home Inspection Safety Checklist



- Walk from room to room with your children and investigate poison hazards in your home.
- Write down the name of each poison you find.
- Make sure they are in their original containers and are properly labeled.
- Put a check mark next to those that are stored in their original, child-resistant packaging, locked out of children's sight and reach (and remove any that are not to a safe, locked place).
- Let your children know that poisons should be handled by grown-ups only.
- Have your children help post the telephone number of the Poison Control Center by the phone, 1-800-222-1222.

Household Products	Medicines and Vitamins	Plants
<p>Cleaning products, drain cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners, oven cleaners, rust remover, furniture polish, lamp oil, antifreeze, windshield washer fluid, kerosene, paint thinner, nail polish, mouth wash.</p> 	<p>Prescription and non-prescription medicines, cold medicines, pain relievers, iron pills.</p> 	<p>Wild mushrooms, holly berries, philodendron, foxglove, and pokeweed.</p> 

What to do if a poisoning occurs:

1. Remain calm.
2. Call 911 if you have a poison emergency and the victim has collapsed or is not breathing. If the victim is awake and alert, dial 1-800-222-1222. Try to have this information ready:
 - the victim's age and weight
 - the container or bottle of the poison if available
 - the time of the poison exposure
 - the address where the poisoning occurred
3. Stay on the phone and follow the instructions from the emergency operator or poison control center. Let children know if they suspect a poisoning emergency, stay calm and get help from a grown-up. If no grown-up is available, children should call the Poison Control Center immediately. Children can also call 911 or dial the "0" to reach the operator for help.

Keep Our Children Safe!!!

Brought to you by the **West Paterson Volunteer Fire Department**

