

What is a poison?

- ☒ Anything someone eats, breathes, gets in the eyes, or on the skin that can cause sickness or death if it gets into the body. They come in all forms: solid, liquid, spray or gas.

What are the different kinds of poisons?

- ☒ Medicines and vitamins
- ☒ Household cleaning products
- ☒ Lawn care products
- ☒ Gardening products
- ☒ Personal care products
- ☒ Plants
- ☒ Drugs, alcohol, cigars, chewing tobacco and cigarettes
- ☒ Environmental poisons (lead, carbon monoxide, insects)



How do I protect my family?

- ☒ Keep children where you can see them at all times, even when you answer the door or the phone
- ☒ Keep all poisonous products and medicines in their original containers
- ☒ Lock poisonous products and medicines out of reach and sight of children
- ☒ Treat prescription and non-prescription medications the same. Do not refer to medicines as “candy” or take them in front of children.
- ☒ Keep purses and diaper bags out of children’s reach.
- ☒ Before using a poisonous product, carefully read the label.
- ☒ Return household and chemical products to a safe storage place immediately after use.
- ☒ Install carbon monoxide detectors.

- ☒ Check your house for peeling paint.
- ☒ Take the time to teach your children about poisonous substances.
- ☒ Keep the number of your poison center near your telephones.

What should you do if a poisoning occurs?

1. Stay calm. Do not give the child anything to eat or drink or make the child throw up before calling the poison center. Do not use ipecac syrup.
2. Immediately call your poison center and have the following information ready:
 - Child's condition, age and weight
 - Product containers or bottles
 - Time that the poisoning occurred
 - Your name and telephone number
3. Follow the instructions that the poison center gives you.

Michigan Poison Control Number:

1-800-222-1222

Resources:

American Association of Poison Control Centers: www.aapcc.org

Children's Hospital of Michigan Regional Poison Control Center: www.mitoxic.org

DeVos Children's Hospital Regional Poison Center: www.devoschildrens.org

Poison Prevention: www.poisonprevention.org

References:

American Association of Poison Control Centers Poisoning Fact Sheets:

Parents/Childcare Providers

Children

Teens/Babysitters

American Association of Poison Control Centers – Preventing Poisonings in the Home Brochure

Poison Prevention: Read the Label First Community Action Kit, National Safety Council