



Contact: City of Wayne Fire Department for more information, 734-722-1111

Poison Prevention

Young children will eat and drink almost anything! Never call medicine “candy”. Children should not be deceived by having flavored medicines called “candy.” When left alone, they may locate the bottle and eat or drink its contents.

Growing children are curious about things that glitter, pretty colored pills, and bottles and containers of all types. These items arouse a child’s natural curiosity. If a child is in the crawling stage, arrange to keep household products in places other than below the kitchen sink unless the cabinet is locked or secured with child safety latches.

If the child is able to climb, find a shelf that is completely beyond his/her ability to reach, or better yet, lock these products in a cabinet or closet. Children will pull drawers out and use them as stairs to reach upper cabinets.

When Do Poisonings Occur?

- In times of stress (family problems, birth of a child, illness).
- During a change of routine (moving, traveling, having guests).
- When poisonous products are stored in pop bottles, jars and other containers normally used for food.
- When adult attention is absent (meal preparation time, telephone time).

What Poisons Can Be Found in Your Home

1. Household Products
Disinfectants, Detergents, Bath cleansers, Bleach, Lye.
2. Fumes
Ammonia, Paint thinners & strippers, Glue
3. Alcohol
Rubbing, Medicinal, Spirits
4. Medicines
Vitamins with iron, Barbiturates, Aspirin, Cold remedies
5. Insecticides
Rat poisons, Insect killers
6. Plants
Plant food, Fertilizers, House plants, Outdoor plants
7. Cosmetics
Shampoo, Perfume, Make-up, Nail polish remover
8. Petroleum Products
Paint, Kerosene, Gasoline, Lighter fluid

Five Keys to a “Home Safe Home”

- Place safety latches on all cupboards and drawers easily reached by children.
- Store all poisonous products (including medications) in their clearly labeled, original containers.
- Know which plants in your home are poisonous and keep them out of the reach of all children.
- Have a one ounce bottle of *Syrup of Ipecac* on hand for each child in the home.
- Make sure all poisonous products (including medications) are stored out of the reach of children.