

March

FIRE DOTs



Poison Prevention Week March 15-21, 2009

SOME FACTS...

- More than 2 million poisonings are reported annually.
- 90% of poisonings occur at home.
- Most non-fatal poisonings occur in children under 6 years old.
- On average a poison exposure happens every 14 seconds.



Common Poisons:

- Medications
- Vitamins
- Cleaning Products
- Laundry Products
- Nail glue/remover/paint
- Primer
- Lighter Fluids
- Batteries
- Bug killers: spray, stakes,
- Cigarettes and Tobacco
- Alcohol (any kind)
- Week killer
- Mouthwash
- Plants (some are toxic if eaten)



TIPS TO PREVENT ACCIDENTAL POISONINGS

- Keep medicines, cleaning products, & other possibly harmful products in their original containers with labels.
- Lock medicines, cleaning products, & other possibly harmful products where children cannot see or reach them.
- Always use child-resistant packaging and remember to replace the caps tightly.
- When taking or giving any medication read the label carefully everytime.
- Use household products exactly as the label says & never mix any. You can unknowingly create toxic gases.
- Install a carbon monoxide alarm.
- If medications are kept in your purse or briefcase be sure to keep them out of reach from children.
- **NEVER** refer to medications as candy!
- If an adult is taking medication try to do it privately where children cannot watch. Children tend to imitate adults around them.
- If using cleaning products or other possibly harmful products and you need to step away take the product or your children with you. It only takes a second for a tragedy to happen.
- When visiting another home be sure it is poison-proofed as well.
- Keep the poison center number by every phone:



1-800-222-1222



Firefighters, emergency vehicles, and other responding personnel need to find your home if an emergency occurs. If the numbers on your home are not clearly visible, this can cause delays.

Residential Addressing

For rural homes or businesses, if the home or building is set back from the road, post your address at the entrance of the drive way. If there is more than one home or building on the same access road have ALL addresses posted at the driveway entrance. Make sure all address can be seen at night!

What can you do?

Install internally illuminated numbers. Make sure the numbers are at least 4" high. The numbers should be easy to read, not cursive style. When hanging the numbers put them directly on the house, garage, or apt. Also, the numbers should be clearly painted on a curb or mailbox in front of the home. To test ask visiting neighbor or friend if they could see the numbers from the street.

Other tips to keep your family safe in an emergency:

- Have a home escape plan and practice it often.
- Have working smoke alarms inside & outside of every bedroom and at the top and base of stairways, and outside the kitchen.
- CALL **9-1-1** for any emergency. Have it posted by the phone or on the refrigerator.
- Keep working flashlights by every bed in the home.
- Have an emergency preparedness kit stocked and up to date.

Nationwide, fire departments respond to a fire every 15 seconds.