

Q & A

Q: When I call poison control, who answers?

A: Doctors, nurses and pharmacists specially trained in toxicology.

Q: If I call poison control, is my information kept private?

A: Yes. Your call is fully confidential.

Q: Will I get a bill for my call?

A: No. Our services are free to the public. Poison control services are sponsored by the Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services.

Q: What if I need help on the weekend?

A: The poison control center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Q: What if I travel out of Florida?

A: Calls to 1-800-222-1222 go to the poison control center that serves your phone's area code. There are more than 50 poison centers nationwide.

Q: Does poison control come to my house and help with a poisoning or a snake in my yard?

A: No. We assist callers over the phone.

First Aid

If someone is having trouble breathing, has chest pain or has fainted, call 911 immediately. For other poisonings, call **1-800-222-1222** for instructions.



Inhaled Poisons/Gases

Move person to fresh air. Avoid contact with fumes. Call poison control for instructions. Do not mix chemicals or cleaners. Never operate a generator indoors or near an open window to avoid carbon monoxide. Keep cars exhaust systems in good repair.



Poison on the Skin

Use gloves when applying pesticide or using chemicals. Rinse the skin with water for 10 minutes and wash with gentle soap in case of contact. Call the poison control center for help.



Poison in the Eye

Wear safety glasses when spraying pesticides or cleaners. If there is contact, gently rinse the eye with lukewarm water for 15 minutes. Call poison control for further instructions.



Swallowed Poison

In case of poisoning, do not take anything by mouth before calling poison control. It can make things worse.

Take Action

Use this guide to make your home safe. Share the information you learn with your friends and family. It may help you save a life!



MEDICINES



HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS
& PESTICIDES



PLANTS



SPIDERS & SNAKES

DON'T TAKE A CHANCE. CALL

**POISON
Help**
1-800-222-1222

When the problem is poison,
the answer is poison control.

florida's poison centers
Children's Medical Services

www.floridapoisoncontrol.org



**FLORIDA'S
POISON
CONTROL
CENTERS**

Is Your Home
**Poison-
Proof?**



More than 500 times a day, Florida Poison Information Center nurses, doctors and pharmacists answer calls for help on our 24 hour emergency and information hotline.

The calls come from families like yours:

- a parent of a toddler who swallowed potent medicine or cleaner
- the older adult who confused his prescriptions
- the homeowner who splashed pesticide in her eyes

Nationally between 70-80% of all callers to the poison control hotline can be safely and effectively treated at home.

Poison control centers save Floridians millions of dollars every year by preventing unnecessary trips to hospital emergency rooms.

Steps to Poison Safety

- Display the poison control hotline **1-800-222-1222** with other emergency numbers near your phone or program it on your cell phone. Make sure babysitters and grandparents also have the number handy.
- Remove all poisons from children's reach (see list at right).
- Safely dispose of medicines that are old or no longer needed.
- Create a secure area for poisons. This can be a high cabinet or a locked box in the garage.
- Keep products in their original containers.
- Locate and repair areas of flaking paint where children play.
- Never call medicine "candy". Teaching poison safety begins early!
- Find out the names of plants in your house and yard. Keep houseplants out of reach of small children and pets.

A Few More Tips...

- Teach children to always ask first. If they ask before trying something new, a parent gets the chance to say no.
- Most poison deaths in the U.S. are a result of medication misuse. Call your poison control center for any medication mistake.

Poisons in the Home

General:

- Flaking paint
- Plants
- Repainted toys

Purse:

- Pain relievers
- All medications
- Cosmetics

Bathroom:

- Aspirin
- Drain cleaners, lye
- Hair care products
- Nail polish & remover
- Deodorants
- Hair remover
- Rubbing alcohol
- Boric acid
- All medications
- Iron tablets
- Hand lotions
- Creams
- Room deodorizers
- Suntan lotions
- Toilet bowl cleaners
- Pine oil & bath oil

Kitchen:

- Aspirin
- Furniture polish
- Cleansers & scouring powders
- Oven cleaners
- Rust removers
- Metal cleaners
- Drain cleaners
- Powder & liquid detergents
- Ammonia
- All medications
- Carpet & upholstery cleaners
- Alcoholic drinks

Bedroom:

- Sleeping pills
- Cosmetics
- Jewelry cleaners
- Perfumes
- Cigarettes & tobacco products
- Moth balls & sprays

Garage, basement, workshop:

- Bug killers
- Lighter fluids
- Paints
- Anti-freeze
- Weed killers
- Lime
- Gasoline
- Turpentine
- Paint removers & thinners
- Fertilizers
- Rat poison