

POISONING PREVENTION

Children ages 1 to 3 years are at highest risk of poisoning. Young children may put anything in their mouths. This is part of the learning process, but they can get very sick if they are poisoned. Many household products can be poisonous if swallowed, if they come in contact with the skin or eyes, or if they are inhaled.

Keep the following phone numbers by your phone:

POISON HELP LINE: 800-222-1222

DOCTOR: _____

Common Examples of Dangerous Substances:

Medicines:

- Aspirin
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
- Tranquilizers & Sleeping Pills
- Iron Pills
- High blood pressure & “heart” medication

Household Products:

- Moth balls
- Furniture polish
- Drain cleaners
- Weed killers and fertilizers
- Insect and rat poisons
- Lye
- Paint thinners
- Dishwasher detergent
- Antifreeze, windshield washer fluid
- Gasoline, kerosene, lamp oil

Toiletries:

- Perfumes
- Aftershave
- Alcohol

Safety Rules:

- Keep harmful products locked up and out of your child’s sight and reach.
 - Use safety latches or locks on drawers and cabinets where you keep dangerous items.
 - Take extra care during stressful times.
 - Call medicine by its correct name. Do not confuse children by calling medicine candy.
 - Always use safety caps on medicine and replace immediately after use.
 - Never leave alcohol within a child’s reach.
 - Keep products in their original containers. Never put non-food products in food or drink containers.
 - Read labels with care before using any product.
 - Do not take medicine in front of small children, who tend to copy adult behavior.
 - Check your home often for old medications and get rid of them.* Discard substances used for old-fashioned treatments, such as oil of wintergreen, boric acid, ammoniated mercury, oil of turpentine, and camphorated oil. Do not flush down the toilet.
 - There is more of a danger of poisoning when you are away from home, especially at a grandparent’s home.
 - Instead of flushing them down the toilet, the Department of Environmental Conservation recommends mixing pills with water, salt or coffee grounds to guard against misuse, then placing them in the trash.
- www.dec.ny.gov/environmentdec/46052.html