Be Prepared to Handle a Poisoning

Accidental poisoning can happen in any home. The natural impulse is to act at once, but the wrong treatment may be more harmful than none.

♦ Know the Poison Control Number. 1-800-222-1222

♦ Keep Activated Charcoal in your home first aid kit. **
**This should not be used except on the advice of the Poison Center or your doctor or health care provider.

♦ Keep a sample of the plant to help medical personnel identify it.

When You Call for Help
Tell the Poison Expert:
♦ The victim’s age and weight;
♦ Existing health conditions or problems;
♦ The substance involved and how it contacted the victim (was it swallowed, inhaled, absorbed through skin contact, or splashed into the eyes?);
♦ Any first aid which may have been given;
♦ If the victim has vomited;
♦ Your location and how long it will take you to get to medical help (or how long medical help will take to get to you);
♦ If you’ve called 911.

For Any Poison, Here’s the Antidote:

1-800-222-1222

State of Alaska
Dept. of Health & Social Services
Division of Public Health
Section of Community Health & Emergency Medical Services
Injury Surveillance & Prevention Program
PO Box 110616
Juneau, AK 99811-0616
(907) 465-4170
(907) 465-2898 FAX
www.chems.alaska.gov/
ems_injury_prevention.htm
Prevent Plant Poisonings

- Choose plants that are nonpoisonous for decorating your home and yard.
- Pick and dispose of all mushrooms and toadstools that grow in your yard.
- As leaves die and fall off of houseplants, pick them up and dispose of them.
- Avoid smoke from burning plants.
- Teach children not to put plants, plant parts, berries, or mushrooms in their mouths.
- Don’t think a plant is not poisonous because birds or other animals eat it.
- Cooking plants does not always kill poisons in the plant.

Poisonous Plants

This is a partial list of the plants that are considered poisonous. These plants contain a variety of poisons that cause different symptoms, varying from a skin rash to kidney damage.

Amaryllis
Anemone
Apricot pits
Avocado (seeds, leaves, stem)
Azalea
Baneberry
Birch tree
Buttercups
Cactus
Calla lily
Carnation
Cattail
Chrysanthemum
Cyclamen
Daffodil
Dahlia
Daisy
Daphne
Death Camas
Delphinium
Elderberry
Eucalyptus
False Hellebore
Fern
Ficus
Fig tree
Foxglove
Geranium
Gladiola
Hemlock
Holly
Honeysuckle
Hyacinth
Hydrangea
Iris
Jimson weed
Jonquil
Juniper
Larkspur
Laurel
Lily of the Valley
Lobelia
Loco weed (Vetch)
Lupine
Mistletoe
Monkshood
Morning Glory
Narcissus
Nightshade
Oleander
Pansy
Parsnip
Peach pit
Peony
Periwinkle
Philodendron
Poinsettia
Poppy
Potato plant (green parts)
Pyrocantha
Rhododendron
Rhubarb leaves
Rose
Rubber plant
Sand begonia
Solomon’s seal
Sumac
Sweet pea
Tulip
Violet
Willow
Wisteria

If not handled properly, plants can be deadly poisons. Children are most often the victims of poisonings due to plants.

Many plants are not poisonous; other plants may only cause mild symptoms if ingested or by skin contact. Other plants can cause serious symptoms or even death.

Identify all the plants in your house and yard - your nearest garden store can help you to identify your plants. The poison control center cannot identify a plant over the phone.

Even non-toxic plants can be a choking hazard for small children.

You can’t tell for sure if a mushroom is poisonous by looking at it.

Never eat a wild mushroom unless an expert identifies it as edible.