



# Minnesota Regional Poison Center

[www.mnpoison.org](http://www.mnpoison.org)

## Plant Poisoning Prevention Tips

### To Prevent a Plant Poisoning:

- Keep all houseplants out of a young child's reach.
- Know the name of all your plants, both indoors and outdoors.
- Label each of your plants with the correct botanical name.
- Mushrooms and berries are particularly attractive to young children. Teach your children never to put mushrooms, berries, or any part of a plant including leaves, flowers, stems, bulbs, or seeds in their mouths.
- Mushrooms are especially abundant after a rainfall. Remove mushrooms from your yard and dispose of properly after each rainfall.
- Do not assume a plant is non-poisonous because birds or wildlife eat it.
- Do not rely on cooking to destroy toxic chemicals in plants.
- Never use anything prepared from nature as a medicine or "tea"

### Follow These Steps if Someone has been Exposed to a Poisonous Plant:

#### MOUTH:

- Remove any remaining portion of the plant, berry, or mushroom.
- Gently wipe mouth with a wet cloth.
- Check for any irritation, swelling, or discoloration.
- Give one glass of water to drink, provided that the victim is conscious and able to swallow.
- Call the Poison Center for further instructions

#### SKIN:

- A few plants may cause local irritation, itching, and/or a rash to the skin. To prevent further irritation, remove contaminated clothing and wash skin well with soap and water.
- Call the Poison Center for further instructions.

#### EYES:

- Wash hands with soap and water to avoid further irritation to the eye.
- Rinse eye well with lukewarm tap water for 10-15 minutes. Gently pour water from a clean container held 2-4 inches above the eye.
- Call the Poison Center for further treatment instructions.

**After following the above steps, always call the Poison Center immediately.**

Poison Information Specialists are available at the Poison Center seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Do not wait for symptoms to appear; symptoms may often be delayed.