



# Prevent Think Life Safety

For additional information, call 503-805-8482

## Poisoning Prevention

Poisoning can occur in many ways and children are particularly vulnerable. Prescription medication, household cleaners, and alcohol are three major sources of poisoning for kids. Carbon Monoxide is also a source of poisoning that kills approximately 200 people each year in the United States.

Steps to safeguard your home from poisoning include:

- Keep Medication in a safe place – A safe place and safe containers are key. Medicine can look very much like candies to a small child. Child resistant pill bottles are good, but they are not necessarily child proof.
- Keep cleaning products in a safe place – Cleaning products, yard chemicals, and other household products can be very dangerous. Their containers can resemble that of other foods (children can't always read warning labels). Keep them in a safe and secure place. Keep them all together when possible to ensure an adult knows where it is and how much is there.
- Mark poisons or chemicals in a way that children recognize – Some areas will have access to "Mr. Yuk" stickers, a sticker that can visually tell children something isn't good. Any marking will do, as long as your child understands what it means.
- Keep the phone number for the poison Control Center handy. You can also call 9-1-1 in an emergency to get help.
- Poison Control Center Number – **800-222-1222**
- Carbon Monoxide can Kill – Carbon Monoxide is an invisible and odorless gas that results from incomplete burning. This can come from a gas or oil furnace, fireplace, gas stove, gas water heater, or anything else that carries an open flame. Most appliances work fine but when they are not running properly or the vent for the gases is not working properly, carbon monoxide can build up in the home.
- Electric Generators cause Carbon Monoxide Poisoning – One of the biggest causes of carbon monoxide poisoning is gas powered, electric generators used during power outages. Keep them a safe distance from the home and away from any openings into the house (like the partially open door or window through which the cord runs).
- Carbon monoxide causes a person to be sleepy, lethargic, and have headaches. Lips can also turn very red. If you see these symptoms, get a person to fresh air right away and call 9-1-1.