Handling and Storage of Hazardous Materials

There are over 2 million human poison exposures reported to poison centers each year. Children under 6 years of age account for over half of the reported poisonings.

How to Prevent Poisoning

- Install child-resistant closing devices.
- Use locked cabinets or places children cannot access.
- Use child-resistant containers.
- Never spray chemical products around children.
- Use ASTM approved art materials.
- Look for EPA registered products.
- Watch for EPA signal words—Caution, Warning, or Danger.
- Avoid flower- or fruit-scented chemicals, which can be appealing to children.

Poisoning Symptoms

- Skin Irritation
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Congestion

Employee Rights

- OSHA law requires employers to provide their employees with safe and healthful workplaces.
- Make the complete identity of any toxic substances known to users.
- Provide safety data sheets and information on all chemical products.
- Make safety data sheets readily accessible to ensure proper handling of chemicals.

Always Read Labels

Pictograms appear on both a product’s label and on the Safety Data Sheet.

A pictogram is a symbol that is intended to relay specific hazard information in a quick and easy manner.

Be Prepared to Call Poison Control

1-800-222-1222

Write down the following information for the poison center specialist:

- The child’s age and gender.
- The substance involved.
- The estimated amount.
- The child’s condition.
- The time elapsed since ingestion or exposure.

Backpacks and purses typically carry cosmetics or medicine. Keep them up and out of reach!

Never induce vomiting unless instructed by the Poison Center.
**KEEP CHILDREN SAFE FROM EXPOSURE**

### Reduce Lead Exposure
- Use caution for construction and remodeling. (House paint prior to 1978 may contain lead.)
- Keep children away from areas with lead paint. Vacuum regularly to remove dust particles.
- Lead may be present in surrounding soil and grassy areas.
- Remove shoes or use shoe covers when entering an infant play area.

### Reduce Carbon Monoxide
- Have all major appliances and furnace professionally installed and inspected.
- Never use a gas stove or oven to heat your home or facility.
- Use a qualified technician to annually clean and inspect all fuel burning appliances.
- Never leave a vehicle running in a garage or enclosed space.

### Reduce Asbestos Exposure
- Repair or remove any deteriorating asbestos or other easily crumbled materials.
- Leave asbestos material that is in good condition alone.

### Reduce Chemical Exposure from Plastics
- Use glass, ceramic, paper, and stainless steel products instead of plastic.
- Use only glass or BPA free plastic for infant bottles.
- Never place plastics in the dishwasher.
- Look for the recycling numbers on plastic products.
- Avoid using plastic labeled with a #3, #6, or #7.

### Reduce Exposure To Radon
- Test center/home every 2 years or sooner if needed.
- Concentrations must be less than four picocuries per liter.
- Follow radon testing protocols found at the Iowa Department of Public Health website.
- Radon testing is required for centers; recommended for home providers, but not required.

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**Common Causes of Poisoning in Children**
- Cosmetics
- Personal Care Products
- Pesticides
- Cleaning Substances
- Plants
- Art Supplies

**The presence of asbestos is not hazardous, unless it is deteriorating or damaged.**

**Plastic products may release chemicals into food and drinks. Some plastics may cause health problems such as cancer.**

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