

- **Rodenticides and Pesticides** - These products are intended to kill rats, mice, gophers, bugs, weeds, etc. They can also kill your pets. Read the product label and follow all directions. If you use baits or powders, put them where your pets cannot find them. Keep your pets off of lawns sprayed with chemicals until they are completely dry. Store these products in tightly closed containers out of the reach and sight of your pets. If an accidental ingestion occurs, contact the West Virginia Poison Center or your veterinarian immediately, even if your pet is showing no obvious signs of being ill.

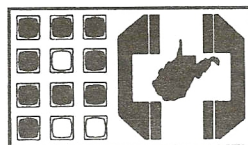
In a Poison Emergency

Keep the telephone numbers of your veterinarian, a local emergency veterinarian service and the West Virginia Poison Center on or near your telephones. Create an emergency action plan with your veterinarian before a poisoning emergency occurs. This will allow you to know where to take your pet in the event of an after hours emergency. If you suspect your pet has been poisoned, call the West Virginia Poison Center or your veterinarian immediately! Do not wait for your pet to look or feel sick.

The West Virginia Poison Center

The West Virginia Poison Center (WVPC) provides comprehensive emergency poison information, prevention, and educational resources to West Virginians 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Each call to the poison center is answered by a Specialist in Poison Information who is specially trained in the management of poisoning emergencies. The WVPC offers assessment and emergency treatment advice on accidental exposures to medications and household substances, plant ingestions, snake, spider and other insect bites and stings, chemical spills, occupational exposures, and drug overdoses.

POISON
Help
 1-800-222-1222



WEST VIRGINIA POISON CENTER

For more information on poison safety or to order educational materials, call the Administrative Office at (304) 347-1212 or visit our website at <http://www.wvpoisoncenter.org>



PETS & POISONS



**The West Virginia Poison Center
 Emergency Line
 1-800-222-1222**

Most of the calls received by the West Virginia Poison Center involve humans. Pets, however, can also become victims of poisoning. Call the poison center for help and advice if you think your pet has been poisoned.



Dogs, cats, and other animals are curious, a natural behavior that places your pets at risk of being poisoned. Many things in your home may be poisonous to your pets. You can help keep your pets safe by storing and using poisons safely.

Common Household Poisons

These common poisons may be found in and around your home:

- **Automotive Products** - Many automotive products, (car cleaners, antifreeze, windshield washer fluids, etc.) can be deadly to your pets. Store automotive products in tightly closed

containers out of reach and sight of your pets. Make sure you clean up any spills or leaks right away.

- **Chocolate** - Baking chocolate is more dangerous than semi-sweet and milk chocolate. Store all chocolate out of the reach and sight of your pets.
- **Fertilizers** - Keep your pets away from yards and gardens when you are using fertilizers. Your pets may get poisoned by licking their paws after walking on a newly fertilized lawn.
- **Flea and Tick Sprays** - When you use flea and tick products, always read the product label and follow directions carefully. Unfortunately, some dog flea preparations (dips, sprays, etc.) can be poisonous if not used in accordance with label instructions. If your pet shows any abnormal signs, stop using the product, wash your pet off with soap and water, and call the Poison Center or your veterinarian. Never use products intended for dogs on cats, or products intended for your yard or house on your pets.
- **Household Cleaners & Chemicals** - Toilet bowl cleaners, bleach, detergents, drain cleaners, pine oils, and other cleaning products can harm your pets.

The best remedy is prevention! Keep all cleaners stored in tightly closed containers kept out of reach and sight of your pets. Keep your pets out of rooms where cleaners are being used. Also, keep pets out of newly cleaned areas until the area is dry. **WARNING!** Birds are especially sensitive to fumes from cleaning and household products.

- **Medicines and Vitamins** - Medicines and vitamins intended for people may not be safe for your pet. This includes over-the counter medicines like aspirin, ibuprofen, cough or cold medicines, etc. Any medication needs to be discussed with and prescribed by a veterinarian prior to giving them to your pet. This will avoid a possible poisoning. Never give medicine intended for one animal to another. **ALWAYS** check with your veterinarian before giving your pets any medicine.
- **Plants and Mushrooms** - Many indoor and outdoor plants and mushrooms are poisonous to pets. Pets, especially cats, love to chew on plants. Keep poisonous plants away from your pets. Make sure you know the names of the plants in and around your home. Rapid identification can make treating your pet easier.