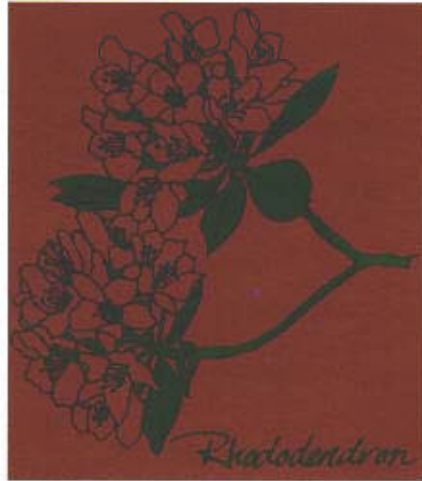


PLANTS ARE



POISONS, TOO!



**FLORIDA
POISON
INFORMATION
CENTER/
JACKSONVILLE**

At University Medical Center

**(904) 549-4480 or
(904) "P-O-I-S-O-N-S"**

**Florida
1-800-282-3171**



**FLORIDA
POISON
INFORMATION
CENTER/
JACKSONVILLE**
At University Medical Center

**655 West Eighth Street
Jacksonville, Florida 32209**

The Florida Poison Information Center / Jacksonville is a cooperative effort between the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, University Medical Center, the University of Florida Health Science Center / Jacksonville & the State of Florida, Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, Children's Medical Services.



Lily of the Valley

PLANTS ARE POISONS, TOO!

Household and landscape plants have become one of the nation's leading causes of poison exposures in children. Symptoms of plant poisonings can range from skin irritation, vomiting and diarrhea, to delirium and even death in some rare cases.

It is important that you know the names and locations of all the plants in your home and yard. It is extremely difficult for the Poison Center to identify plants over the telephone. Label all houseplants on their containers and note whether they can be poisonous. Keep a list of all houseplants and garden plants so that babysitters, grandparents and other guardians also have access to this information. If you cannot identify a plant, take a clipping to the nearest nursery or florist.

Use this brochure to identify which plants are poisonous and non-poisonous, and to keep a record of which ones you have in and around your home. If you do not find a particular plant on this list, call the Florida Poison Information Center / Jacksonville.



Yamb Cane

FIRST AID FOR POISONOUS PLANT EXPOSURES

The majority of children and adults who eat plants do not suffer serious ill effects. However, some plants are more harmful than others, and certain people may be more susceptible to their toxic effects. You should familiarize yourself with the following guidelines related to accidental plant exposures.

- Keep one bottle of Ipecac Syrup in the home for each child. DO NOT use it unless instructed to do so by the Poison Information Center or your physician.
- Use this brochure as a guide to identify, label and record all plants in and around the home.
- Determine which plant was involved in the exposure. Was it touched or eaten? If it was ingested, how much, and which part (leaves, berries, stems, fruit, seeds or roots) was involved? How long ago did this happen?
- If a plant was eaten, give the child a small amount of water or milk to drink and wash any irritated skin area.
- Call the Florida Poison Information Center / Jacksonville to determine if the plant is poisonous.
- Carefully follow all directions for treatment, and watch for any further symptoms. Call the Florida Poison Information Center if symptoms persist or become worse.



Yew



Hydrangea

SAFE PLANTS

The list of plants below are considered "safe." Remember that although these plants are not considered poisonous, there are still potential dangers with the ingestion of any plant, including choking, harm to the mouth and throat (for example, from pine needles), and pesticides. This is not a complete list of all non-toxic plants. If you have questions about any plant, take it to the nearest nursery for identification and call the Florida Poison Information Center/ Jacksonville for further information.

Houseplants

African Violet
Baby's Tears
Bird's Nest Fern
Boston Fern
Christmas Cactus
Coleus
Cornplant
Croton
Dracaena
Dragon Tree
Fluffy Ruffles Fern
Gold Dust
Jade Plant
Lace Fern
Lipstick Plant
Prayer Plant
Purple Passion
Rubber Plant
Schefflera*
Silver Dollar
Spider Plant
Staghorn Fern
Swedish Ivy
Sword Fern
Wandering Jew*
Weeping Fig*
Yucca
Zebra

Trees

Bottlebrush
Crape Myrtle
Fringe Tree
Golden Rain Tree
Hackberry
Red Mulberry
Red Maple
Redbud
Sand Pine
Silver Bell
Slash Pine
Southern Magnolia
Spruce Pine
Sweet Gum
Sycamore
Tulip Poplar

Shrubs

Bougainvillea*
Camellia
Caragana
Gardenia
Hawthorn
Lilac
Mountain Ash
Pittosporum
Spirea

Garden

Dandelion
Easter Lily
Marigold
Petunia
Impatiens
Rose*

*Handling these plants may cause dermatitis (skin rash or irritation).

HOW TO AVOID PLANT POISONINGS

- Become familiar with plants in your home, yard and neighborhood. Know them by sight and name.
- Never eat any part of an unknown plant or mushroom. Teach children never to put leaves, stems, bark, seeds, nuts, or berries from any plant into their mouths.
- Teach children to recognize poison ivy, oak and sumac.
- Keep seeds and bulbs away from children.
- Do not eat wild plants.
- Keep poisonous houseplants out of reach of young children. Store labeled bulbs and seeds out of sight and reach.
- Do not assume a plant is not poisonous because birds or other 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."
- Keep weed and bug killers in their original containers with proper labels. NEVER put them into bottles, cups or bowls where they could be mistaken for food. Always read the instructions carefully before using.
- Keep children and pets away from areas where garden chemicals are being sprayed.
- Wash thoroughly after using pesticides and herbicides. ALL chemicals should be locked up and stored out of children's reach. Carefully rinse all containers before throwing them away.
- Avoid smoke from burning plants.
- Remember...there are no safe "rules of thumb" for distinguishing edible from poisonous plants.