

National Poison Prevention Week

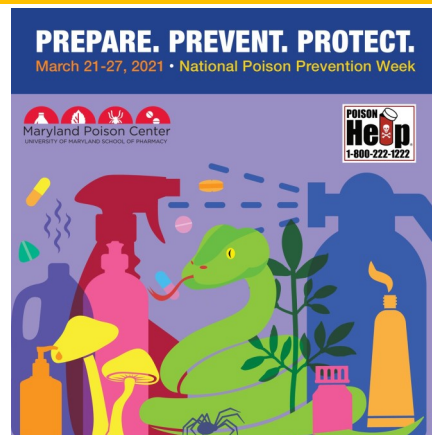
National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) is March 21-27, 2021. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death, and the 6th leading cause of nonfatal injury treated in the emergency department for all ages. Join the Maryland Poison Center (MPC) in using this week to encourage the public to take steps to prevent poisonings and to be prepared if a poisoning occurs.

How can you help promote National Poison Prevention Week?

- Distribute MPC brochures, telephone stickers, and magnets to your patients, staff, family, and friends. You can order free materials by using our online store at <https://mdpoison.com/education/materials>.
- Set up a display or bulletin board about poisons and poison prevention using the information sheets on our website, www.mdpoison.com.
- Give virtual poison education presentations to local schools and community groups.
- Make sure that every phone at your workplace has a poison center phone sticker, and program the number into your cell phone.
- Promote NPPW through local newspapers, TV, and radio.

Here are suggested messages that you can use in your National Poison Prevention Week activities:

- Children Act Fast...So Do Poisons
 - ⇒ Children younger than six account for about 43% of cases at poison centers nationwide.
 - ⇒ Medicines and household cleaners should be stored up, away, and out of sight.
- Be Prepared for a Poison Emergency
 - ⇒ Save the nationwide phone number in your phone 1-800-222-1222 or text 'POISON' to 797979.
- Poison Centers Save You Time and Money
 - ⇒ Fast, free, and confidential expert advice is available 24/7/365.
 - ⇒ Almost 70% of MPC cases are managed at home and without referral to hospital.
- Poisonings Span a Lifetime
 - ⇒ A majority of poison center cases involve children, but teens, adults, and older adults are also at risk for poisonings.
- Regularly Dispose of Unused and Expired Medicine
 - ⇒ Take old medicine to [permanent drop off locations](#), or [safely dispose of it at home](#).



Did you know?

The MPC has a full lineup of activities for NPPW. Here is just a sample of what we have planned:

We will be very active on social media during NPPW! Community partners are encouraged to like and share our messages to their pages.

Follow us on Facebook ([@MarylandPoisonCenter](#)) and on Twitter ([@MDPoisonCtr](#) and [@MPCToxTidbits](#)).

- Mr. Yuk 50th Birthday celebrations on social media.
- If your organization is interested in partnering with us to promote NPPW on social media, email epaterson@rx.umaryland.edu
- Base station coordinators at every emergency department in our service area will receive poison center materials.
- Want information on health professional education programs? Send an email to eschuetz@rx.umaryland.edu.

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@MPCToxTidbits