Each year the Utah Poison Control Center receives more than 25,000 phone calls about children who have eaten, inhaled or touched a dangerous household product.

These accidents are preventable! Here are some reminders to help you keep your child safe.

**Helpful Hints...**

1. Use products with child-resistant caps. Remember that children can open these… child resistant is *not* child proof! Given enough time, children can open most any container.

2. Most accidents occur while products are in use. Items should be in your hands or in a safe storage place.

3. Keep products in their original containers. Children will drink out of familiar containers—like sport drink bottles—even if they do not know what is in them.

4. Do not allow children to play with medicine containers.

5. Do not take medicine in front of children.

6. Be aware of medicines used by family and friends. They may need help planning safe storage.

Remember…it is impossible to supervise your child 100% of the time. Many children who are poisoned have been taught to avoid dangerous substances. Children are capable of climbing and reaching before you know it!

The Utah Poison Control Center provides immediate treatment advice for poison emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A specially-trained nurse or pharmacist is always available. All services are free and confidential.

Utah Poison Control Center
585 Komas Drive, Suite 200
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

www.utahpoisoncontrol.org
Which products can be harmful?

**CLEANERS** bleach, drain openers, polishes, soaps and detergents, carpet/upholstery cleaners, ammonia, metal cleaners, oven cleaners

**MEDICINES** (prescribed or over-the-counter) pain relievers, diet pills, allergy and cold medicines, vitamins, diet pills, pet medications, creams, and medicines made for children

**COSMETICS** aftershave, mouthwash, nail polishes and removers, fluoride rinses, hair products, perfumes, baby powder

**HOUSE PLANTS** philodendron, dumbcane, and pothos

**CHOKING HAZARDS** jewelry, small toys or foods, coins and batteries

**OTHER ITEMS** insect and weed sprays, antifreeze, mothballs, lighter fluid, gasoline and kerosene

Household Checklist

**KITCHEN**
- Store cleaners and medicines separately from food.
- Do not place products or medicines on counter tops, window sills, or in open areas.
- Put safety latches on cabinets and drawers where harmful products are stored.

**BATHROOM**
- Make sure all medicines, cleaners, cosmetics, and deodorizers are stored out of reach and in cabinets with safety latches.
- Use child-resistant caps on all medicines. Check that the lids are clean so that they close properly.
- Dispose of expired medicines properly. Call your local health department to find out how.

**BEDROOM/LIVING ROOM**
- Place plants out of child’s reach.
- Keep small items such as jewelry out of reach. Your child can choke on them.
- Do not put medicines on nightstands or other low surfaces. Keep them in the original container in latched cabinets.

**LAUNDRY/CLEANING**
- Make sure all products are in original containers and labeled.
- Keep bleach and other cleaning products out of reach and in a locked cabinet.

**STORAGE AREAS** (including outside storage)
- Make sure all products are in original containers and labeled.
- Keep bug spray, weed killer, paint thinner and other chemicals out of reach and in a locked cabinet.

**IN EVERY ROOM**
- Look around at “kid level.” What will a child be able to reach when sitting, crawling, standing, walking or climbing? Note plug-in air fresheners, plants, decorative items as well as cleaning products and medicines.

Call 1-800-222-1222 if you think someone has been poisoned.