What you need to know about Spring Poison Safety

As you begin spring cleaning and work in the yard, the Maryland Poison Center (MPC) offers the following safety information:

**Household Cleaners:**
- Store cleaners out of sight and reach of children.
- Keep cleaners in their original containers. Never use food containers to store household products.
- Read and follow directions before using household cleaners every time they are used.
- Never mix cleaners because poisonous gases can be created.

**In the Garden:**
- Pesticides and herbicides can be taken into the body through the skin and by being inhaled.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, socks, shoes and gloves when using pesticides and herbicides. Remove and wash clothing when finished.
- Stay away from areas where pesticides have been sprayed until the spray has dried or for as long as noted on the product label.
- Wash off children and pets (especially their nose and paws) after they have been in grass that was recently sprayed with chemicals.
- Know the names of flowers and plants growing in and around your yard. Refer to the MPC Poisonous Plant list for more info. bit.ly/MPCPlantList
- Teach children to never put mushrooms, berries or any part of a plant into their mouths.

**Swimming Pool:**
- Open pool chemicals in a well-ventilated area, preferably outside. Gases that are irritating to the eyes, nose and lungs can build up in the container after winter storage.

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**First Aid for Poisoning**

**Poison on the Skin**
- Remove contaminated clothing.
- Flood skin with water for 10 minutes, then wash gently with soap and water and rinse.
- Call the MPC

**Poison in the Eye:**
- Flood eye with lukewarm water from cup, faucet or shower for 15 minutes.
- Call the MPC

**Inhaled Poison:**
- Get victim to fresh air.
- If possible, open doors and windows.
- Call the MPC

**Swallowed Poison:**
- Gently wipe out mouth and give a small amount of water.
- Do not make the person vomit.
- Call the MPC

www.mdpoison.com