

School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Newsletter – March 2014



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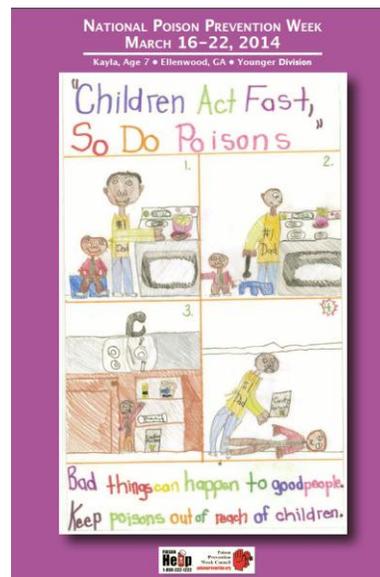
View this newsletter as a [PDF](#).

National Poison Prevention Week

National Poison Prevention Week (March 16-22, 2014), the third week in March each year is designated to highlight the dangers of poisonings and how to prevent them. The Poison Prevention Week Council provides information about the events associated with National Poison Prevention Week, the steps that can be taken to prevent accidental poisonings, and tips to promote community involvement for poison prevention.

Every day, people can and do prevent poisonings. The Poison Prevention Week Council invites you to review the information on [their website](#) and to become actively involved to ensure the safety of children and adults in your home and in your community.

More on National Poison Prevention Week:
<http://www.poisonprevention.org/index.htm>



Lock Poison Up

Each year, poison centers receive more than 145,000 reports involving pesticides and disinfectants. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) urges parents and caregivers to secure pesticides and other household chemicals in locked cabinets out of children's reach. More than 90% of poisonings happen in homes. Each year, approximately 65,000 children aged 5 and younger are accidentally exposed to pesticides. More than 10,000 of those exposures involve mouse and rat poisons. EPA established new and improved safety standards for consumers to use a protective tamper-resistant bait station for mouse and rat bait products. These measures will prevent children from accessing baits and reduce exposure to the active ingredient.

Poisonings are preventable.

Here are some simple tips to keep your family safe from accidental poisonings:

- Always store pesticides and other household chemical products out of the reach of children – preferably in a locked cabinet.

- Use mouse and rat poison products with a tamper-resistant bait station.
- Inspect your home room by room for potential poisoning hazards and remove any unsafe products.
- Use child-resistant packaging properly by closing the container tightly after use.
- Purchase only the amount of pesticide product that is required for the job.
- Never transfer pesticides or other household chemical products to containers that can be mistaken for food or drink.
- Never store pesticides in the same locations with food products.
- Never mix household or chemical products together. Doing so can create dangerous gases or other chemical reactions.
- Never share prescription medicines.
- Program into your phone the Poison Help Center number, 1-800-222-1222.

Poison prevention tips and resources to protect your family:

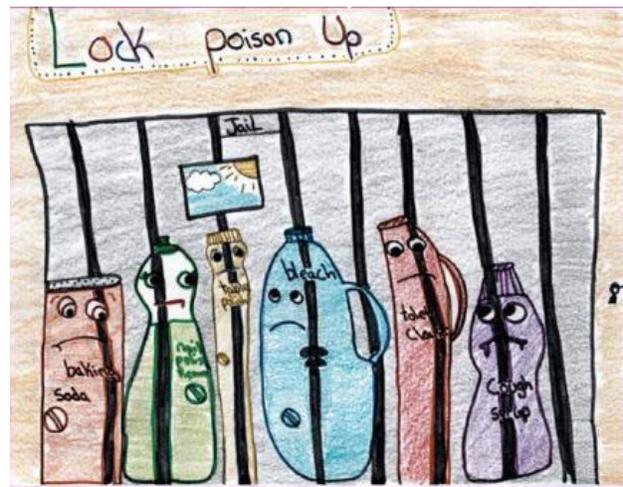
<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/poisonprevention.htm>

Room by room checklist for potential poisoning hazards:

<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/roombyroom-checklist.htm>

List of rat and mouse products that meet the EPA's safety standards:

<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/mice-and-rats/rodent-bait-station.html>



IPM in Schools

Pesticides are powerful tools used to kill pests. However, pesticides need to be used carefully and judiciously, especially when used in sensitive areas where children are present. Children are more sensitive than adults to pesticides. Young children can have greater exposure to pesticides from crawling, and exploring behaviors and hand-to-mouth activities.

The EPA recommends that schools use integrated pest management (IPM) to reduce pesticide risk and exposure to children. Put simply, IPM is a safer, and cost effective option for effective pest management in a school environment. A school IPM program uses common sense strategies to reduce sources of food, water and shelter for pests in your school buildings and grounds. An IPM program takes advantage of all pest management tactics, including the judicious and careful use of pesticides if and when necessary.

Since children spend so much of their day at school, IPM provides an opportunity to create a

safer learning environment - - to reduce children's exposure to pesticides as well as eliminate pests. EPA is encouraging school officials to adopt IPM practices to reduce children's exposure to pesticides.

For more information, please read: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ipm/index.htm>

Upcoming Webinars and Events

Attend Free Sessions of the [Green Strides Webinar Series](#). View archived webinars [here](#).

The [Green Strides Webinar Series](#) provides school communities the tools to reduce their schools' environmental impact and costs; improve health and wellness; and teach effective environmental literacy, including STEM, green careers, and civic engagement.

March 7, 2014, 2-3 p.m. Eastern / 12-1 p.m. Arizona: [All Bugs Good and Bad 2014 Webinar Series: Straight Talk About Termites](#) (eXtension)

March 11, 2014, 1-2 p.m. Eastern / 10-11 a.m. Arizona: [Authentic and Dynamic Assessments for Service-Learning \(EarthEcho&NYLC\)](#)

March 12, 2014, 4-5 p.m. Eastern / 1-2 p.m. Arizona: [Local Action for Global Change – Gearing up for Earth Day 2014 \(Rainforest Alliance\)](#)

March 12, 2014, 7-8 p.m. Eastern / 4-5 p.m. Arizona: [Engineering in the Field or Schoolyard \(NEEF\)](#)

March 19, 2014, 3-4 p.m. Eastern / 12-1 p.m. Arizona: [Behind the Scenes: EarthEcho Expeditions \(EarthEcho&NYLC\)](#)

March 28, 2014, 12-1 p.m. Eastern / 9-10 a.m. Arizona: [Conservation Biological Control](#) (UCONN)

March 14, 2014, Friday, 6-10 p.m.: [Wine, OH Dino returns with Beer 'N Bones \(includes bug encounters and Q&A opportunities\)](#). Arizona Museum of Natural History. 53 N. Macdonald, Mesa, AZ 85201

April 10, 2014, Thursday, 1-5 p.m.: [Annual Spring Turfgrass Seminar: Math Made Easy to Grow Grass](#). Maricopa County Cooperative Extension, 4341 E. Broadway Road, Phoenix, AZ 85040

The Annual Spring Turfgrass Seminar will be April 10 at the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension with the featured topics of “how to do all the math and calculations for pesticide and fertilizer applications, determine irrigation audit efficiency, and soil salinity”. Find more details <http://turf.arizona.edu/index.htm>.

April 23, 2014, Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.: Workshop [Integrated Pest Management in a Child's World](#). Yuma Cooperative Extension Office, 2200 W. 28th St. Yuma, AZ 85364

Free Registration. This workshop for school personnel will provide information on: Integrated Pest Management (IPM) philosophy and the best way to manage pests, including bed bugs, cockroaches, ants, head lice, scabies, and pesticide safety. Participants will be awarded 6 Continuing Education Units for Office of Pest Management (general category). To register for the class or other inquiries, call Shaku Nair, Assistant in Extension for Community IPM, University of Arizona, at 520-840-9429 or nairs@email.arizona.edu.

April 25, 2014, Friday, 7-2 p.m.: [Ak-Chin Earth Day Event](#). 46753 Farrell Road, Maricopa, AZ 85139

The Environmental Protection Department of the Ak-Chin Indian Community is planning 2014 Ak-Chin Earth Day Event. Departments/Organizations are encouraged to set up exhibits that promote environmental stewardship and to provide environmental educational opportunities.

May 9, 2014, Friday: [23rd Annual Desert Horticulture Conference](#), Casino Del Sol Resort, 5655 W Valencia Road, Tucson, AZ 85757

The Desert Horticulture Conference is the premier annual conference for all members of the Green Industry: landscape architects, designers, growers, retailers, contractors, maintenance personnel, suppliers and educators. Presenting timely and research-based information relevant for designing, building, maintaining, and producing plants for urban landscapes in the arid Southwest. Please visit the website at <http://cals.arizona.edu/deserthort/>.

For more information about the EPA Schools program, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/schools/>



For more information about the Community IPM, visit:
<http://www.extension.org/pages/23359/urban-integrated-pest-management-community-page>



For more information about School IPM in Arizona, visit:
<http://cals.arizona.edu/apmc/westernschoolIPM.html>

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