



## Protect your family from pesticide poisoning!

- ◆ Read the label for information on how to properly store and dispose of the product.
- ◆ Store all pest control products out of reach of children. Remind grandparents and childcare providers to do the same.
- ◆ Keep products in their original containers; don't use food containers to store chemicals.
- ◆ Place the **Mr. Yuk** sticker on all chemicals in your home that have the potential to poison you and members of your family.
- ◆ Educate your family to **NOT** handle products that have a **Mr. Yuk** sticker unless they have been trained.
- ◆ Minimize risks to human health and the environment by using Integrated Pest Management, a common-sense approach to pest problems using prevention, non-chemical approaches and low-risk pesticides.

“Signal words” can be found on the front of pesticide products and serve as a guide to the consumer of the short-term toxicity of a pesticide.

**CAUTION:** Slightly toxic

**WARNING:** Moderately toxic

**DANGER:** Highly toxic

Teach children never to touch products with a signal word or a **Mr. Yuk** sticker on it.

Colorado Environmental Pesticide Education Program  
[www.cepep.colostate.edu](http://www.cepep.colostate.edu)

Colorado Center for Sustainable Integrated Pest Management  
[www.coloradoipmcenter.agsci.colostate.edu/](http://www.coloradoipmcenter.agsci.colostate.edu/)

Provided by  
Colorado Environmental Pesticide Education Program (CEPEP)



# Avoid Pesticide Poisonings in Your Home

Use **Mr. Yuk** stickers to identify poisons in your home!



Colorado State University

Extension

[www.ext.colostate.edu](http://www.ext.colostate.edu)

Potential poisons are everywhere – in our homes, schools, recreation areas and workplaces. Whether you are 18 months or 81 years old, you can become a victim of an unintentional poisoning.



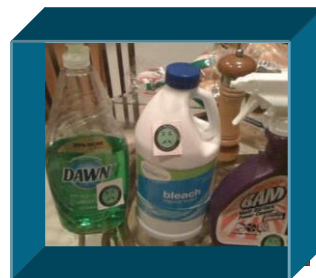
More than half of all reported poisonings occur in children under the age of six. A child's smaller body size and greater surface area per kilogram of body

weight means it takes less pesticide to affect their developing organs and tissues. Children's habit of playing on the floor or ground, exploring, and putting things in their mouths predisposes them to greater exposure than adults.

## Would you recognize a 'pesticide'?

A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. Pests can be insects, mice and other animals, unwanted plants (weeds), fungi, or microorganisms like bacteria and viruses. The term pesticide applies to insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and various other substances used to control pests. This also includes substances you may not have thought of like disinfectants (bleach) and insect repellents.

Place the **Mr. Yuk** sticker on all chemicals in your home that have the potential to poison you and members of your family.



**Signal Words** alert users to special hazards of the pesticide. Regardless of the signal word on a pesticide product, remember that every product still has the potential to poison (i.e. is harmful at high doses).

**CAUTION** means the pesticide product is slightly toxic if eaten, absorbed through the skin, inhaled, or it causes slight eye or skin irritation.

**WARNING** means the pesticide product is moderately toxic if eaten, absorbed through the skin, inhaled, or it causes moderate eye or skin irritation.

**DANGER** means the pesticide product is highly toxic by at least one route of exposure. It may be corrosive, causing irreversible damage to the skin or eyes. Alternately, it may be highly toxic if eaten, absorbed through the skin, or inhaled. If this is the case, the word "**POISON**" must also be included in red letters on the front panel of the product label.