

Avoid Accidental Pesticide Poisonings:

Don't let look-alikes fool you.

Pesticides can be beneficial in many ways. However, they can pose human health hazards when not properly stored. We often think of poisoning as something that happens to children only, but it is also easy for adults to mistake one product for another. Pesticides are potentially harmful substances that can easily be mistaken for look-alike consumable product. They may look the same, have similar packaging and may be ingested when improperly stored, such as in food or beverage containers.

Pesticide	Safe Product Look-alike
Mouse Poison	Candy (Tic Tacs)
Moth Balls	Marshmallows, Sugar Cubes
Horticultural Oil	Milk
Bt	Cereal (Grape-Nuts)
Acetic Acid	Water
Herbicides	Cooking Oils, Sports Drinks

What can you do?

- 1 Store pesticides in their original containers, with the label identifying the product. Never store in food containers.
- 2 Store pesticides separately from food & feed.
- 3 Secure pesticides in a locked location.
- 4 Keep pesticides out of the reach and sight of children. Children's bodies are small, so even small amounts of poisonous chemicals can cause significant problems.
- 5 Have adequate light in storage areas so that the labels can be seen or read easily.
- 6 Read labels to find out if items could be harmful.
- 7 Dispose of old and outdated pesticide containers properly.
- 8 Teach children about pesticide look-alikes.
- 9 Apply "Mr. Yuk" stickers to poisonous products. www.upmc.com/Services/poison-center/store



- 10 Poison Control Centers are not just for emergencies. They are open 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week as a resource for help and information 1-800-222-1222.