



BRIGHT FROM THE START

Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

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The purpose of this list is to familiarize child care programs with some of the common plants known to have poisonous properties. Generally, these plants and plant components need to be ingested for there to be a poisonous exposure. The term “POISONOUS” does not imply that the plant is fatal. Many of these plants are only mildly toxic, causing stomach ache or mild irritation of the mouth and throat when ingested. This list is **NOT** intended to discourage child care programs from planting any of the plants on the list, or removing already planted trees and plants, but to make you aware of their potential hazard.

If possible, have all the trees, plants, and shrubs that are on or near the child care property identified by a landscaper, arborist, etc. Keep record of what is growing on the grounds, potentially label or tag the trees and larger shrubs (this could be an educational benefit for the older kids). If any child is seen holding, touching, playing with, or potentially eating any of these plants, trees, or shrubs, call the GPC at 404-616-9000 for further advice as soon as possible. If child care programs have a record of what is growing on the property, this could be of significant benefit when providing treatment advice.

If you have any questions, call Child Care Services at 404-657-5562 or email childcareservices@decal.ga.gov.

Thank you,
Child Care Services

The Facts About Poinsettias

Poinsettias are not the deadly plant they were once thought to be. If eaten, the plant may cause burning in the mouth and may cause a stomach ache.

Plant Safety

To help prevent plant poisonings, follow these safety tips:

- Know the names of all the plants in your home and yard. A nursery, florist, or your county extension agent can help you to identify a plant.
- Label all your plants with their names, so you can tell what it is if a piece has been eaten.
- Keep house plants, seeds, and bulbs out of the reach and sight of children and pets.
- Do not eat wild plants or mushrooms. Cooking poisonous plants does not make them safe to eat.
- Remove mushrooms that are growing in your yard. Throw them away in a covered garbage can.
- Keep weed and bug killers in a locked cabinet, out of the reach of children and pets. Never put them in bottles used for drinking.
- Keep children and pets away from lawns that were just treated with garden chemicals.
- Teach your children to never put any part of a plant into their mouths.



Know What To Do In A Poisoning Emergency

- Keep the telephone number of the Georgia Poison Center on or near your telephones.
- If any part of a plant is eaten, remove as much of the plant as possible from the mouth and call the Georgia Poison Center right away! Do not wait for the victim to look or feel sick.

THE GEORGIA POISON CENTER

Each year, the Georgia Poison Center (GPC) provides services to thousands of people in Georgia. You can call the GPC to get help in a poisoning emergency or to get treatment advice about animal or insect bites. Nurses, pharmacists, and doctors answer the phones 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. They can tell you what to do if you, your child, or your pet is poisoned or was bitten by an animal. In addition, the GPC staff can answer questions about poisons in and around your home.

All calls to the GPC are free.

To order educational material, call the Education Department at
404.616.9235
or visit our website at
www.georgiapoisoncenter.org.

Georgia Poison Center
Grady Health System
80 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE
PO Box 26066
Atlanta, GA 30303-3050



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Certified as a Regional Poison Center by the
American Association of Poison Control Centers



POISONOUS PLANTS



**IN A POISONING EMERGENCY,
CALL 24-HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS
A WEEK:
1-800-222-1222**

Teletype for the deaf and hearing
Impaired only: TDD 404-616-9287

Both indoor and outdoor plants can be poisonous. Some plants may cause symptoms such as an upset stomach, or skin rash. Some may harm your heart, kidneys, and other organs. Some plants that are thought to be non-poisonous, can cause an upset stomach if they are eaten.

Poisonous Plants

Amaryllis	Castor Oil Plant/Castor Bean
American Ivy/Virginia Creeper	Cedar Tree
Anemone	Cherry, Laurel, Black
Apricot (seeds and pits)	Chinaberry
Aralia, Ming	Chinese Lantern/Cape Gooseberry/Winter Cherry
Azalea/Rhododendron	Gooseberry/Winter Cherry
Baneberry	Choke Cherry
Belladonna/Deadly Nightshade	Chrysanthemum
Birch Tree	Clematis
Bird of Paradise	Crown of Thorns/Euphorbia
Bittersweet/ Woody Nightshade	Cyclamen
Bleeding Heart/Dicentra	Daffodil/Jonquil/Narcissus
Boxwood	Deadly Nightshade/Belladonna
Buckeye/Horse Chestnut	Devil's Ivy/Pothos
Burning Bush/Euonymus	Dicentra/Bleeding Heart
Bursting Heart/Euonymus	Dieffenbachia/Dumb Cane
Caladium	Elder (bark, shoots, leaves, roots, unripe berries)
Candelabra Cactus	Elephant's Ear/Philodendron
Cape Gooseberry/ Chinese Lantern/Winter Cherry	
	English Ivy
	Eucalyptus (dried)
	Euphorbia/Crown of Thorns
	Euonymous
	Flowering Tobacco
	Four O'Clock
	Foxglove
	Gladiola (bulb)
	Holly (berries, leaves)
	Horse Chestnut/Buckeye
	Hyacinth
	Hydrangea
	Iris
	Ivy (Devil's, American, English)
	Jasmine, Yellow Carolina
	Jequirity/Rosary Pea
	Jerusalem Cherry
	Jimsonweed
	Jonquil/Daffodil/Narcissus
	Juniper (berries)
	Lantana
	Larkspur
	Laurel
	Ligustrum/Wild Privet
	Lily of the Valley
	Mistletoe
	Monkshood
	Morning Glory (seeds)
	Mulberry (leaves, bark, sap)
	Mushrooms
	Narcissus/Daffodil/Jonquil
	Nightshade
	Oak Tree (leaves, acorns)
	Oleander
	Pansy (seeds)
	Peace Lily
	Peach (seeds and pits)
	Pencil Cactus
	Peony
	Periwinkle/Vinca
	Philodendron/Elephant's Ear
	Plum (seeds and pits)
	Poison Hemlock
	Poison Ivy, Oak, Sumac
	Pokeweed/Pokeberry
	Poppy
	Potato (leaves, all green parts)
	Pothos/Devil's Ivy
	Rhododendron/Azalea
	Rosary Pea/Jequirity
	Split Leaf/Philodendron
	Sweet Pea (seeds)
	Sweet William
	Tomato (stems, leaves)
	Vinca/Periwinkle
	Virginia Creeper/American
	Ivy
	Water Hemlock
	Wild Privet/Ligustrum
	Winter Cherry/Cape
	Gooseberry/Chinese Lantern
	Wisteria
	Woody Nightshade/Bittersweet
	Yarrow
	Yew

Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, And Poison Sumac

The sap from poison ivy, oak, and sumac plants can cause a rash, burning, and itching if touched. If you come into contact with the sap, a skin rash may appear within a few hours to two days. The rash may take one to two weeks to go away. In some people, the sap can cause an allergic reaction.

If you touch poison ivy, oak, or sumac...

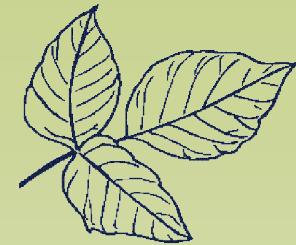
- Wash the area with warm, soapy water right away.
- Wash any clothing and garden tools you think may have sap on it.
- Try not to scratch your rash since this can cause it to get worse.

You can only get the rash from touching the sap; you cannot get the rash from touching another person's rash.

To avoid touching these plants, keep covered up while outdoors! Wear long pants, long sleeves and gloves when working in your yard. Stay on trails while hiking or camping in the woods!

**Do not burn Poison Ivy, Poison Oak or Poison Sumac.
The smoke can cause breathing problems**

Poison Ivy has shiny green leaves that grow in groups of three. Poison ivy may grow as a vine or as a low shrub.



Poison Oak also has leaves grouped in three. It grows as a low shrub, which may have clusters of green or white berries.



Poison Sumac has 7-13 leaves found in pairs with a single leaf at the end. These long, smooth leaves are bright orange and velvet-like in the spring. They become dark green and glossy on top and light green underneath. Sumac grows as a tree in swampy areas.

