Poisonous Plants in New Mexico

Poison Prevention Tips

• Know your plants:
  • Ask your local garden center for help identifying plants in and around your home.
  • Label your plants with their common and botanical names.
  • Call the Poison Center to find out if a plant is poisonous.
• Keep all poisonous plants, bulbs, seeds, and plant foods where children and pets cannot reach them.
• Teach children not to put leaves, stems, bark, berries, seeds, nuts, or any other part of a plant into their mouths.
• Remove mushrooms from your yard on a regular basis.
• Teach children to never touch, taste, or eat an outdoor mushroom.
• Do not think that a plant or berry is safe to eat because an animal or bird eats it.
• Do not rely on cooking to destroy poisons in plants.
• Be careful when using plants as medicines or herbal drinks.

First Aid Tips

• If ANY plant is eaten, take out what is left in the mouth and rinse with water.
• If skin is exposed to a toxic plant, wash with water and soap. Remove all clothing that has come into contact with the plant.
• Call 1-800-222-1222 right away for treatment advice. Do not wait for symptoms to appear!
• Call 911 if a person collapses, is not breathing, or has a seizure.

Your Poison Center is...

• open 24 hours a day to help you with any type of poison emergency or question about a poison.
• a free, confidential and multilingual public service available to all New Mexicans.
• staffed by pharmacists specially trained in treating poisonings.
• a public service program of the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy.
• certified by the American Association of Poison Control Centers.

Poisoning 24 hour hotline: 1-800-222-1222
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Did you know that household plants are one of the leading causes of poisoning in children? Some plants have substances that can cause symptoms ranging from a mild stomachache to serious illness or even death. That is why it is important to know what kind of plants are in and around your home and whether they will cause serious illness if touched or eaten.

The plants shown below are commonly found in New Mexico and are highly toxic (can cause serious illness).

### Poisonous Plants in New Mexico

- amaryllis
- apricot (chewed pits)
- apple (chewed seeds)
- azalea
- begonia
- buckthorn (coyotillo & tullidora)
- caladium
- castor bean
- cherry (chewed pits)
- chinaberry
- chokecherry (chewed pits)
- cotoneaster
- crabapple (chewed seeds)
- crocus (autumn)
- croton
- cyclamen
- death camas
- delphinium
- dieffenbachia (dumb cane)
- donkey tail
- elderberry
- eucalyptus
- euonymus
- euphorbia
- false hellebore (corn lily, skunk cabbage)
- four o'clock
- foxglove
- golden-chain tree
- hemlock
- holly (berries)
- horse nettle
- hyacinth
- hydrangea
- iris
- ivy (boston, english, & some others)
- jimson weed
- juniper
- lantana
- larkspur
- lily-of-the-valley
- lobelia
- lupine
- milkweed
- mistletoe
- monkshood
- morning glory
- mother-in-law’s tongue
- mushrooms (outdoor)
- nandina
- narcissus (daffodil & jonquil)
- nephthytis
- nightshade (black, deadly, silverleaf)
- oleander
- peace lily
- periwinkle
- peyote
- philodendron
- plum (chewed pits)
- poinsetta
- poison ivy
- poison oak
- pokeweed
- pothos
- primrose
- rhododendron
- rhubarb (leaves)
- rosary pea (jequirity bean, precatory bean)
- shamrock plant
- sorrel
- string-of-pearls (beads)
- sweet pea
- tobacco
- tulip (bulb)
- virginia creeper
- wisteria
- yew

Plants of High Toxicity (can cause serious illness)

Below is a list of common poisonous plants in New Mexico. Do not think that a plant is safe because the name of the plant is not on this list. If the name of the plant is not on this list, call 1-800-222-1222 to find out if the plant is poisonous.

- african daisy
- african violet
- airplane plant
- aralia*
- asparagus fern*
- aspidistra
- aster
- baby’s breath
- bachelor buttons
- bamboo
- birdsnest fern
- bougainvillea*
- cactus (thorn)
- camellia
- chamisa
- christmas cactus
- coleus
- corn plant
- cottonwood*
- dahlia*
- daisy*
- dandelion*
- dogwood*
- dracaena
- echinacea
- gardenia
- gloxinia
- hens-and-chicks
- honeysuckle
- impatiens
- ivy (grape* & swedish)
- jade plant
- kalanchee
- lily (day, easter, or tiger)
- lipstick plant
- magnolia
- marigold*
- mimosa
- monkey plant
- moses-in-the-cradle*
- mulberry tree or bush
- orchids
- palms
- peperomia
- peppers** (chile, jalapeno, habañero, cayenne, etc.)
- petunia
- poplar*
- prayer plant
- purple passion vine
- rose*
- rubber tree plant*
- russian olive
- sensitive plant
- spider plant
- wandering jew*
- yucca
- zebra plant

*plants that may cause a mild skin rash after contact

**may cause irritation or burning to hands, skin, and eyes; wear gloves and avoid touching eyes when handling peppers

Plants of Low Toxicity (may or may not cause illness)

Below is a list of common plants considered to be of low toxicity. If you have concerns or experience symptoms after coming into contact with any plant, call 1-800-222-1222 right away.

- african daisy
- african violet
- airplane plant
- aralia*
- asparagus fern*
- aspidistra
- aster
- baby’s breath
- bachelor buttons
- bamboo
- birdsnest fern
- bougainvillea*
- cactus (thorn)
- camellia
- chamisa
- christmas cactus
- coleus
- corn plant
- cottonwood*
- dahlia*
- daisy*
- dandelion*
- dogwood*
- dracaena
- echinacea
- gardenia
- gloxinia
- hens-and-chicks
- honeysuckle
- impatiens
- ivy (grape* & swedish)
- jade plant
- kalanchee
- lily (day, easter, or tiger)
- lipstick plant
- magnolia
- marigold*
- mimosa
- monkey plant
- moses-in-the-cradle*
- mulberry tree or bush
- orchids
- palms
- peperomia
- peppers** (chile, jalapeno, habañero, cayenne, etc.)
- petunia
- poplar*
- prayer plant
- purple passion vine
- rose*
- rubber tree plant*
- russian olive
- sensitive plant
- spider plant
- wandering jew*
- yucca
- zebra plant

*plants that may cause a mild skin rash after contact

**may cause irritation or burning to hands, skin, and eyes; wear gloves and avoid touching eyes when handling peppers