



Pesticides

A pesticide (commonly called bug killer) is any chemical used to destroy, prevent, or control pests.

Pesticides used in and around the home:

Herbicides: weed killers

Fungicides: fungi killers

Rodenticides: rat and mice killers

Insecticides: insect killers

Pesticides are also used in schools, parks, and other public places. When used in the right way, pesticides can be helpful; however, they can be very harmful if they are used in the wrong way.

**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**

Common Pesticides

Be aware of these pesticides found in and around your home:

- Ant and roach sprays and baits
- Insect sprays
- Insect repellents
- Rat and mice poisons
- Mothballs
- Flea and tick sprays and powders
- Some weed and insect killers
- Some pet collars

Legally, all pesticide labels must include: product name, manufacture name, ingredients, type of product, recommendations for specific use, directions for use, precautions, first-aid instructions, storage and disposal information.

Applying Pesticides

- Always read the label before using and follow the directions carefully.
- Before treating an area, remove any toys, food, furniture, and dishes. Wait until the treated area is dry before putting the items back.
- Do not place insect or rodent baits where your children or pets can get to them.
- Always clean up any spills right away.
- Wash your hands and clothing after using pesticides.
- If you must mix or dilute chemicals, do so in an open area or outdoors. Protect your skin and eyes and keep your children and pets away.
- If you are using a spray, apply only to areas needing treatment. Never spray or dust outdoors on a windy day.
- Protect your body with gloves, goggles, mask, closed shoes, and protective clothing.

Clean up and Disposal of Pesticides

After using a pesticide:

- Be aware that empty pesticide cans and bottles can be as unsafe as full ones because of the residue left in them.
- Clean any tools used and safely dispose of all containers.
- Read the label for instructions on proper disposal. It is the law to follow the label instructions.
- Never pour unused amounts of pesticide down the drain.
- Wash all your body parts exposed to the pesticide with soap and water.
- Wash clothing right away.

For more information on pesticide safety contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov or contact your local county extension agent.



Know What To Do In A Poison Emergency

- Keep the phone number for the Georgia Poison Center (GPC) on or near your phones. You can also email or chat with us by visiting our website at www.georgiapoisoncenter.org.
- If you suspect that someone has been poisoned, call the Georgia Poison Center right away. DO NOT wait for symptoms to occur. Bring the



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

The Georgia Poison Center

Each year, the Georgia Poison Center 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 your 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
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