



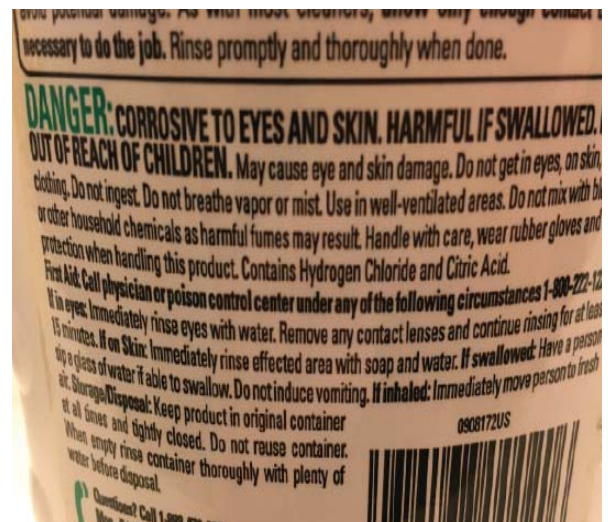
# CHEMICALS IN THE HOME

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON PREVENTION OF CHEMICAL POISONING IN THE HOME

Poisoning by chemical home products is the leading cause of non-occupational fatalities and the cause of just over half of the accidental deaths in the home resulting in over 30,000 deaths per year across the U.S.

In the workplace, information on the hazards of the chemicals workers use is given through the Hazard Communication and Right-To-Know regulations. Most information about hazardous substances come from the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and the Global Harmonization System (GHS) product label. In the home, chemical hazard information is regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act (FHSA). The FHSA requires that hazardous substances must be labeled to warn consumers of the potential hazards of the product. Because of this regulation, there is an exception in the Hazard Communication regulation for consumer products in the workplace that are used in the same manner and quantity that they are used at home. Because many household products are used commercially, most have a safety data sheet available for them online.

There are no regulations for how chemical products are used in the home except that they will have a CPSC label. The products that require labeling are those that will be purchased, stored, or used in or around a place where people live. Products used or stored in a garage, shed, carport, or other building that is part of the household are also covered. Household products (hazardous substances) must be labeled to alert consumers to the potential hazards the products present and must tell them what they need to do to protect themselves and their children from them. If products are toxic, corrosive, flammable or combustible, an irritant, a strong sensitizer, generate pressure through decomposition, heat, or other means and have the potential to cause injury or illness during use, or may be ingested by children, they must be labeled.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT: [WWW.CSEANY.ORG/SAFETY](http://WWW.CSEANY.ORG/SAFETY)

## PREVENTION

- Get the product intended for the specific use involved.
- Select products that have non-toxic or less toxic ingredients (green cleaners).
- Use consumer products in accordance with the label instructions and heed all warnings especially concerning ventilation and dangerous mixtures.
- Wear any recommended protective equipment like safety glasses and gloves.
- Store potentially harmful consumer products where they are accessible by only those responsible enough to use them safely.
- Store products in their original containers.
- Know the first aid procedures from the label for the product. In the event of a poisoning call 9-1-1. Call the number for the state Poison Control Centers (800-222-1222) to get immediate assistance until the emergency services arrive.
- Store all flammable and combustible liquids away from open ignition sources (stoves, hot water heaters, pilot lights, etc.). Use approved flammable liquid storage cans if they are not in their original container.
- Store and use all compressed flammable gases (propane) in a secure area outside of the house or attached garage.

For more information and resources visit:

[www.cseany.org/safety](http://www.cseany.org/safety)



Follow the CSEA Canary on:



CSEA has been winning the fight for safe and healthy working conditions for over 100 years, yet there is more to be done. Hazards old and new- from Asbestos to Zika- remain a threat to workers every day. CSEA will not back down from the fight and nothing is more important than saving lives and keeping workers free from injury. Your help is needed now more than ever. The life you save could be **YOUR OWN**.

