



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 19-25, 2017

### *Poison Prevention Week*

Poisonings are a significant health problem in California, resulting in 226,000 calls to the California Poison Control System each year. While poisoning exposures can happen to anyone anywhere, about 80% of all calls are made from the home and nearly half of these calls involve children under the age of five. More than 61,000 emergency room and physician office visits are averted each year in California because of the immediate service available from the California Poison Control System.

Calls to the California Poison Control System at 1-800-222-1222 offer fast, free, and expert help, 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. Callers receive information and treatment advice from pharmacists, physicians, nurses, and poison information providers.

The majority of poisonings can be avoided by taking preventive steps to poison-proof the home. The most common examples of poison in and around the home include cleaning products, medicines, cosmetics/personal care products, carbon monoxide, pesticides and poisonous plants.

During Poison Prevention Week, I encourage all Californians to learn about how to protect your family, friends and community from poisoning exposures. Free educational materials can be found online at [www.calpoison.org](http://www.calpoison.org).

Sincerely,

  
EDMUND G. BROWN JR.