

Two of the most dangerous poisons in your home are Carbon Monoxide and Windshield Washer Fluid



Carbon Monoxide (CO)

CO poisoning is a leading cause of accidental poisoning death in the United States from inhalation.



CO is a poisonous gas. It has no color, odor, or taste. All fuel-burning devices make CO. The devices can produce dangerous levels when not operating properly.



Sources of CO include

- Gas furnaces
- Water heaters
- Gas stoves
- Kerosene/propane space heaters
- Wood burning and gas fireplaces
- Power generators
- Car engines



Signs of CO Poisoning

- Headache
- Nausea
- Drowsiness
- Confusion
- Chest Pain
- Seizures
- Coma
- Pregnant women and people with history of stroke or heart disease are more at risk for CO poisoning.



Prevention

- Never leave a car running in a closed garage
- Have all fuel-burning devices, furnace, and fireplaces, checked out by an expert at the start of each winter
- Have CO detectors in your home
- Replace CO detectors every 5-7 years

For more information call the Wisconsin Poison Center at [1-800-222-1222](tel:1-800-222-1222) anytime of the day or night.

Take Action!

If your CO detector alarms, leave the home and call your local fire department via 911 from outside the home. Be sure to tell the 911 dispatcher if anyone is ill.



Windshield Washer Fluid

This product can cause severe toxicity even if only swallowed in small amounts.

- One of the main active ingredients of windshield washer fluid is methanol.
- Most windshield washer fluids contain at least 50% methanol.
- One accidental swallow of this substance by a child or adult could result in serious medical complications like blindness or death.
- This colorful liquid is used by the gallon and can be found in almost every car or garage in Wisconsin.
 - Windshield washer fluid is most commonly available in 1 gallon jugs and comes in attractive colors including: blue, orange, red, purple, and most recently green.
 - Children can easily mistake this product for juice or Kool-Aid.
- Although this product does come packaged with a "Child Resistant Cap", many young children left alone with this product for more than a few minutes can open this safety mechanism.
- Many adults put this product into other containers such as empty Gatorade bottles or empty soda cans, resulting in a potentially life threatening ingestion to an unsuspecting party mistaking it for the original product.

Prevention!

Keep this product in its original container.

Make sure it is stored either in the trunk of a vehicle or in a locked cabinet in the garage.

Any person suspected of swallowing any amount of windshield washer fluid should call the Wisconsin Poison Center at [1-800-222-1222](tel:1-800-222-1222) right away for treatment guidelines



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