



# Poisonous Plants around the Home

**For suspected poisoning: Call 1-800-222-1222 or 911**

It is important to be familiar with the plants commonly found around the home that are known to be poisonous. In some cases, only a part of the plant is poisonous. Plants that are toxic or irritating should be avoided if there are young children or pets in the household. In cases where a portion of a plant has been consumed, much worry and needless effort can be avoided if a plant is known to be non-poisonous. According to the U.S. Public Health Service, there is no general antidote for plant poisoning. Treatment depends upon symptoms. When poisoning is suspected, call your poison control center at 1-800-222-1222 or 911. If you must visit a hospital emergency room, bring as much of the plant with you as possible.

## Some Plants that Cause Dermatitis or Irritate Mucous Membranes

(\*may also cause a rash)

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>
Baneberry	<i>Actaea</i> species
Caladium (all parts)	<i>Caladium</i> species
Christmas Pepper (berries)	<i>Capsicum annum</i> (conooides group)
Crown of Thorns (sap)	<i>Euphorbia milii</i>
Dumbcane (leaves and stem)	<i>Dieffenbachia</i> (all species)
Philodendron (all parts)	<i>Philodendron</i> (all species)
Poison Ivy (all parts; also Poison Oak)	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>
Poison Sumac	<i>Toxicodendron vernix</i>
Poinsettia (sap)	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>
Spurge (sap)	<i>Euphorbia</i> (most species)
Wild Parsnip (leaves, stem)	<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>
Snow-on-the mountain (sap)	<i>Euphorbia marginata</i>
Skunk Cabbage (leaves)	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>

## Some Poisonous Plants (\*may also cause a rash)

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical Name</u>
Amaryllis (bulb)	<i>Hippeastrum</i> species
Andromeda (leaves)	<i>Pieris japonica</i>
Apple (seeds)	<i>Malus</i> species
Apricot (leaves and twigs)	<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>
Azalea (all)	<i>Rhododendron</i> spp.
Baneberry (seeds)	<i>Actaea</i> species
Black Locust (bark, leaves, seeds)	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Black Nightshade (all parts)	<i>Solanum</i> (all species)
Bleeding Heart (Dutchman's Breeches) (leaves)*	<i>Dicentra</i> species
Bloodroot (root)	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
Boxwood (leaves)	<i>Buxus</i> (all species)
Buttercup (bulb and sap)*	<i>Ranunculus</i> (all species)

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**Poisonous Plants (continued)**

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	<b><u>Botanical Name</u></b>
Castor Bean (seeds)	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
Cherry Trees (all wild and cultivated twigs and leaves)	<i>Prunus</i> species
Christmas Pepper (leaves and berries)	<i>Capsicum annum</i> (conooides group)
Christmas/Lenten Rose (leaves)	<i>Helleborus niger</i>
Daphne (seeds and bark)*	<i>Daphne mezereum</i>
Daffodil (bulb)*	<i>Narcissus</i> (all species)
Elderberry (roots and stems)	<i>Sambucus</i> species
English Ivy (leaves)*	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Foxglove (all parts)	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Fruit Pits- Apricot Cherry, Peach, Plum,	<i>Prunus</i> (all species)
Ginkgo (fleshy fruit)*	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
Goldenchain Tree (seed pods)	<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>
Holly (berries and leaves)	<i>Ilex</i> (all species)
Horse Chestnut (Buckeye seeds)	<i>Aesculus</i> species
Hyacinth (bulb)*	<i>Hyacinthus</i> species
Hydrangea (leaves)*	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i>
Iris (tuber)	<i>Iris</i> (all species)
Jack-in-the-pulpit (all parts)	<i>Arisaema</i> species
Jasmine (all parts)	<i>Jasminum</i> species
Jerusalem Cherry (berry)	<i>Solanum pseudocapsicum</i>
Jimson Weed (all parts)	<i>Datura stramonium</i>
Lady Slipper (leaves)	<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>
Larkspur (leaves)	<i>Delphinium majalis</i>
Lupine (seeds)	<i>Lupinus</i> species
Lily-of-the-valley (all parts)	<i>Convallaria</i> species
Mayapple (roots)	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Mistletoe (berries)*	<i>Phoradendron serotinum</i>
Moonseed (berries)	<i>Menispermum canadense</i>
Morning Glory (seeds)	<i>Ipomoea</i> species
Mountain Laurel (leaves)	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
Nightshade (all parts)	<i>Solanum</i> species
Oak (leaves, seeds)	<i>Quercus</i> (all species)
Oleander (leaves)*	<i>Nerium oleander</i>
Peach and Plum (leaves and twigs)	<i>Prunus</i> (all species)
Pokeweed (roots)	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>
Poison Hemlock (foliage, seeds)	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
Poppies (flower head)	<i>Papaver</i> species
Potato (green tissue & sprouts)*	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>
Pothos (leaves)	<i>Scindapsus aureus</i>
Precatory Bean, Rosary Pea (seeds)	<i>Abrus precatorius</i>
Privet (leaves)	<i>Ligustrum</i> species
Rhododendron (leaves)	<i>Rhododendron</i> (all species)
Rhubarb (leaves)	<i>Rheum rhaponticum</i>
Snowdrop (bulb)	<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>
Star-of-Bethlehem (bulb)	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>
Sweet Pea (seed)	<i>Lathyrus odoratus</i>
Tomato (leaves)*	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i>
Virginia Creeper (all parts)*	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Wisteria (seed)	<i>Wisteria</i> (all species)
Yew (berry)	<i>Taxus</i> (all species)

## **Common Non-Poisonous House Plants**

<b><u>Common Name</u></b>	<b><u>Botanical Name</u></b>
African Violet	<i>Saintpaulia ionantha</i>
Begonia	<i>Begonia</i> (all species)
Dracaena	<i>Dracaena</i> (all species)
Impatiens	<i>Impatiens</i> (all species)
Jade Plant	<i>Crassula argentea</i> , <i>C. arborescens</i>
Peperomia	<i>Peperomia</i> (all species)
Prayer Plant	<i>Maranta leuconeura</i>
Purple Passion	<i>Gynura aurantiaca</i>
Schefflera	<i>Brassaia actinophylla</i>
Snake Plant	<i>Sansevieria</i> (all species)
Spider Plant	<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>
Swedish Ivy	<i>Plectranthus australis</i>
Wandering Jew	<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i> , <i>Zebrina pendula</i>
Wax Plant	<i>Hoya carnosa</i>
Zebra Plant	<i>Aphelandra squarrosa</i> , <i>Calathea zebrina</i>

**Sources:** American Association of Poison Control Centers ([www.aapcc.org](http://www.aapcc.org).)

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*The information on pest management for New York State contained in this publication is dated April 2011. The user is responsible for obtaining the most up-to-date pest management information. Contact any Cornell Cooperative Extension county office or PMEP (<http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu/>), the Cornell Cooperative Extension pesticide information website. The information herein is no substitute for pesticide labeling. The user is solely responsible for reading and following manufacturer's labeling and instructions.*