Spring Cleaning...It's that time again!

Spring is here and it is time to do our annual deep cleaning once again. Chances are to get this job done you rely on an army of powerful cleaning supplies. It is important to always use and store these cleaning products with caution. Every cleaning product can be used safely if they are used correctly.

It only takes a second for an accident/exposure to happen.

Here are some tips to reduce the risk of unintentional exposures.
** Store cleaning products up high and out of the reach of children
** Store products in their original container and do not remove the labels
** Never leave the product alone while it is in use
** Do not mix cleaners
** Follow the directions from the manufacturer

If you are exposed to a cleaning substance call the Palmetto Poison Center immediately at... 1-800-222-1222

Types of Calls We Answer

*I've taken too much of my medicine...
* My toddler just swallowed a magnet...
* I splashed bleach in my eyes...
* I was swimming and was stung by a jellyfish...
* Do you think I have food poisoning...
* My husband gave my one year old medicine and so did I...
* I inhaled fumes from cleaning supplies now I feel dizzy...
* My grandson accidentally drank detergent...

To Bee or Not to Bee...That's the stinging question.

The flowers are beginning to bloom and everyone is out enjoying the nice weather. As we spend more time outside our risk for bites and stings increase. In 2007 the Palmetto Poison Center received over 700 calls related to bites and envenomations. Of those exposures over 50 were from poisonous snakes. Numerous other insect and spider bites and stings were also reported

The following tips are recommended to avoid bites and stings:
** Watch where you step and sit while outdoors
** Keep food covered at picnics until ready to eat to avoid bees
** Wood piles and brush are excellent places for snakes and spiders to hide
** Do not disturb nests of bees, wasps, or hornets
** Install screens on doors/windows to keep spiders and insects out

** As a rule leave all snakes alone

Severe allergic reactions to insect bites include hives or difficulty breathing. If you experience these symptoms call 911 immediately.

If a bite or sting occurs call the Palmetto Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.

Free and Confidential

Available 24 Hours a day 365 Days a year

Information provided by nurses and pharmacists who are trained in toxicology.