CALL POISON CONTROL
(for people or pets)
at 1-800-222-1222
from anywhere in the United States.
Meanwhile get the person away from the pesticide.

- Wash pesticide from the SKIN with water and soap. Remove all clothes soaked with pesticide.
- If pesticide is in the EYE, wash the eye gently with clean water for at least 15 minutes.
- If the person SWALLOWS a pesticide, call POISON CONTROL right away.

Sometimes household pest problems can be solved without a pesticide. If you do not remove the source of the problem, a pesticide may not keep the pest from coming back. Look for our other brochures about fleas, flies, roaches, ants, and mosquitoes. They will help you control household pests with less pesticide.

Your local Extension Service office can also help with household pests.

If you need to use a pesticide, follow the 5 steps in this brochure to protect yourself and your family. Some pesticides can make you sick.
READ THE PESTICIDE LABEL BEFORE YOU BUY THE PESTICIDE

**STEP 1** The label tells you to use the pesticide safely to control your pest problem. It is against the law to apply a pesticide unless you follow all of the label directions. Look for these words on the label:

**DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION.** One of these words will be on the label in big letters.
- **DANGER** pesticides can kill you, or they may cause severe burns or eye damage. **NEVER** use a DANGER pesticide indoors. Do not buy DANGER pesticides for household use unless there is no other choice.
- **WARNING** pesticides are not as poisonous as DANGER pesticides.
- **CAUTION** pesticides are less likely to hurt you or your family.

**DIRECTIONS FOR USE** tell you where you can use the pesticide. Follow all directions.
- **NEVER** use a farm pesticide around the house unless the label says that you can.
- **NEVER** use an outdoor pesticide indoors unless the label says that you can.
- **NEVER** bring pesticides home from work to use around the home.
- **NEVER** use more pesticide that the label says.

**HAZARDS TO HUMANS AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS** will tell you more about how the pesticide might hurt you or your family. This part of the label will also tell you what to wear while you use the pesticide. The label may tell you to wear gloves, eye goggles, or a respirator. If you do not want to wear the things listed on the label, do not buy that pesticide.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS** will tell you about risks to fish, birds, bees, or water.

**HANDLING PESTICIDES**

**NEVER** carry a pesticide in the car where your family will ride. Keep pesticides away from your food, pet food or clothing. The pesticide may spill and ruin your food or clothes. Do not mix pesticide close to your water faucet or food.

**PESTICIDE SPILL**

**NEVER** eat, drink, or smoke while you use pesticide. Do not use pesticides outside when it is windy or when rain is coming soon.
- **Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, shoes, socks, and gloves.** You **MUST** also wear anything else that the label tells you to wear.
- **Wear plastic or rubber gloves and shoes.** Cloth and leather do not protect you from pesticides.
- **Open, measure, and mix pesticides outdoors.**
- **Measure pesticides carefully.** Write “PESTICIDES ONLY” on things you use for pesticides.
- **Keep children and pets out of the area until pesticide sprays have dried.** The label may tell you to keep people and pets out for a longer time.
- **Keep all toys, pet bowls, pans, and dishes out of the area.**
- **Wash your hands with soap and water before you eat, drink, or smoke.** Wash your pesticide clothes away from your other laundry.
- **Throw away clothes soaked with pesticide.**
- **Dry pesticide clothes outside if you can.**
- **NEVER** wash spilled pesticide away with the hose.
- **NEVER** wash pesticide down into the sewer or storm drain.
- **If someone is in danger, call 911.** If you do not know what to do about a spilled pesticide, call CHEMTREC at 800-424-9300.
- **Before you clean up spilled pesticide, put on rubber or plastic gloves.**
- **If the pesticide is dry, scoop the pesticide back into its sack or jug.** Sweep up the rest of the pesticide dust.
- **If the pesticide is liquid, soak it up with cat litter, sand, or dirt.**

**DISPOSING OF PESTICIDES AND CONTAINERS**

**NEVER** pour pesticide down the drain or flush it down the toilet.
- **NEVER** use pesticide jugs to carry food or water to drink. A small sip of a pesticide may kill a child. **NEVER** store pesticides or other household chemicals (e.g., drain opener or bleach) under the sink.
- **Child-safe cabinet locks are not foolproof.**
- **Store pesticides out of the reach of children (secured with lock and key is best).** You may want to buy a small locker or lock-box to store pesticides.
- **If your child stays with someone else, make sure they store pesticides safely.**

**PESTICIDE STORAGE**

**NEVER** store any pesticide in anything used for food or drink. **NEVER** use pesticide jugs to carry food or water to drink. A small sip of a pesticide may kill a child. **NEVER** store pesticides or other household chemicals (e.g., drain opener or bleach) under the sink.
- **Scrub the area with heavy-duty soap and a small amount of water. Soak up the liquid and put it into a heavy-duty garbage bag. Throw the bag into the outdoor garbage.**
- **Scoop up the cat litter and pesticide and put it into a heavy-duty garbage bag.**
- **Wash scoop, brush, and other clean-up materials away from the house.**
- **Write “PESTICIDES ONLY” on things you use for pesticides.**
- **NEVER** use pesticide jugs to carry food or water to drink. A small sip of a pesticide may kill a child. **NEVER** store pesticides or other household chemicals (e.g., drain opener or bleach) under the sink.
- **If your child stays with someone else, make sure they store pesticides safely.**
- **NEVER** store any pesticide in anything used for food or drink. **NEVER** use pesticide jugs to carry food or water to drink. A small sip of a pesticide may kill a child. **NEVER** store pesticides or other household chemicals (e.g., drain opener or bleach) under the sink.