

Proclamation

WHEREAS, all citizens should be aware of the dangers posed by potentially poisonous household products and other toxic substances; and

WHEREAS, these products, when not used as intended or directed, may be hazardous, particularly if children or animals gain access to them; and

WHEREAS, an increasing number of adults are exposed to toxic substances, medications and illegal drugs at home, school and in the work place; and

WHEREAS, the number of known chemicals has increased from 1.2 million to over 40 million in less than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, knowing the Poison Center phone number, **1-800-222-1222**, and having it posted by the phone can save lives in times of such emergency; and

WHEREAS, information and educational achievements of our state's official and voluntary organizations have helped awaken individuals to the need for poison prevention, including the proper use of child protective packaging; and

WHEREAS, latest national figures show continued declines in the accidental ingestion of household products among children; and

WHEREAS, over the past 45 years, the nation has been observing Poison Prevention Week to call attention to these hazards and their proper handling and disposal and proper use of safety packaging can help eliminate them; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of our community organizations, complemented by the efforts of the Washington Poison Center have reduced childhood poisonings in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, efforts have substantially reduced the incidence of accidental poisonings, but efforts must continue as long as a single adult or child – is poisoned, these efforts must continue;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, {Mayor's Name}, Mayor of {City}, do hereby proclaim March 16-22, 2008, as

Poison Prevention Week

in the {City}, and I urge all citizens, officials and voluntary organizations to continue their efforts to eliminate poisoning as a significant health hazard.