

# THE YUK REPORT

Expert Poison Information 24/7

Washington Poison Center

1-800-222-1222

Fall 2008

## The Yuk Box



**What is The Yuk Box?**  
It is a tool kit filled with educational materials to teach poison prevention messages to both adults and children. There are currently five located throughout Washington State available for public use with four more boxes coming soon.

### What is in The Yuk Box?

There are numerous resources in the box. Some of the materials are great for fairs and presentations, while others are better suited for classroom learning and projects. Either way, there is something for everyone. Each box contains:

*Look-Alikes:* food and other items with very similar packaging that people can easily mistake for one another. Examples include apple juice and wood cleaner, eye drops and ear drops, mayonnaise and multi-surface cleanser and hemorrhoidal ointment and tooth paste.

*Medicine Cabinet Display:* When opened, there are a number of

colorful and enticing medications and candies that look alike. It demonstrates how children, and even adults, can mistake medications for candy.

*Videos:* an assortment ranging from cartoons for pre-schoolers, to adult education videos on poison proofing your home before the baby comes. Language spoken varies per video.

Additionally, there are sample handouts (which you can call the

### Who can use The Yuk Box?

Educators, program managers, teachers, parent groups, safety coordinators and others can use the box for health and safety fairs, teaching classes, presentations to children and parent groups and adult education.

### Where are The Yuk Boxes located?

Currently, they are located in Seattle, Tri-Cities, Walla Walla, Spokane and Vancouver. They will also be available for checkout in Tacoma, Yakima, Mount Vernon and Aberdeen very soon.

### Did you know . . .

- . . . about 4,000 college-aged, young adults call the WAPC annually asking questions about medications, alcohol, food poisoning, household cleaners and personal care products?
- . . . the substance we get the most calls about is Ibuprofen?
- . . . last year, the Poison Center received 94,023 calls for assistance? That's over 250 a day!

poison center to order or download for free off the website), a guide on how to teach poison prevention messages to a variety of age groups and a list of possible activities to facilitate.

Contact the Poison Center at **1-800-222-1222** for more information or to find who to contact in your area to checkout a box.

### From the Files

## DOG GONE HORMONES

Troy came home from work to discover his German Shepherd, Spike, had eaten some of his wife's birth control pills. Very concerned and somewhat embarrassed, he called the veterinarian. The vet was unsure how birth control hormones would effect the dog, so he recommended Troy call the Poison Center. Katie, a poison specialist, immediately answered the call. After spending a moment debating whether Spike had eaten some of the pink pills (active ingredients) or peach pills (placebos), Katie was able to reassure Troy that Spike would be fine and his behavior would not change.

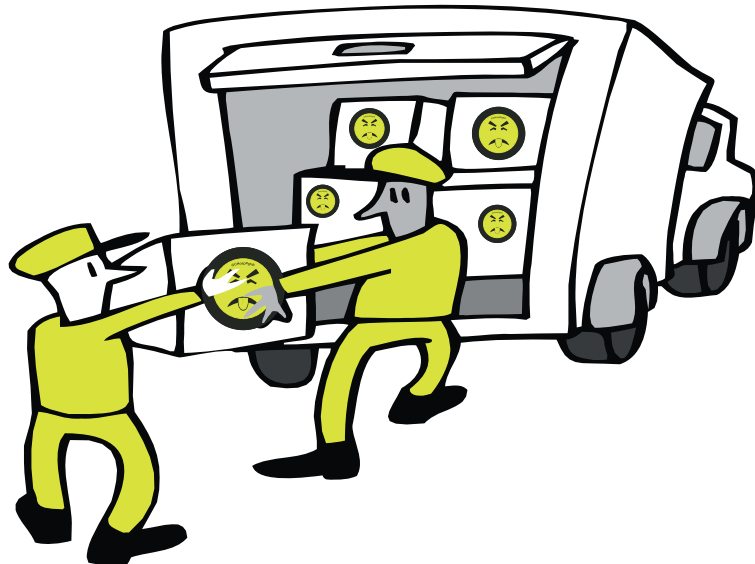
# Pack and Unpack with Mr. Yuk

The summer-to-do-list and last minute activities are squeezed in before bells start ringing again in classrooms across the state. Several families will be using the end of summer to move to a new address. The Washington Poison Center reminds families that accidental poisonings are very common during times of change, such as a move.

Children and pets are both very curious and very quick. Many parents have called the toll-free poison help number, **1-800-222-1222**, for advice when their child got into a bottle of medication or a cleaning product left within reach while the family was in the throws of packing or unpacking. Other callers needed help when their child or pet was first to a stray pill when tearing down a bed.

Place Mr. Yuk stickers on products that may cause harm if ingested, inhaled or absorbed as a reminder for adults to keep these products out of the reach of children and pets. Other ways to prevent a poisoning while moving include cleaning when children are out of the room; immediately taping and clearly marking boxes of cleaning products, medications, garage and garden chemicals and other potentially harmful products; and slowing down to double check the dose and medicine before taking or giving any medication.

It is recommended to call the Poison Center as soon as you suspect that someone has been poisoned. The Poison Center's specially-trained nurses, pharmacists and poison specialists are available 24/7 by calling **1-800-222-1222**. Along with poison treatment advice, callers to the Poison Center can request Mr. Yuk stickers and Poison Center magnets be sent to their new home address.



## Get Your Mr. Yuk T-shirt!

Download an order form at [www.wapc.org](http://www.wapc.org)

T-Shirts are available in adult small, medium, large and extra large.

## Support Mr. Yuk

Does your company have a workplace giving campaign? Please remember Mr. Yuk and the Washington Poison Center when filling out your form and tell your co-workers about us, too.

The Washington Poison Center is a nonprofit, charitable organization relying on community support. To make a tax-deductible donation, send a check or money order to:

**Washington Poison Center**  
155 NE 100<sup>th</sup> Street, #100  
Seattle, WA 98125-8007

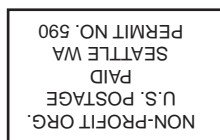
Or visit our website, [www.wapc.org](http://www.wapc.org), to donate by credit card.

*Mr. Yuk thanks you for your help!*

WAPC is an Equal Opportunity Employer



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



155 NE 100th Street, #100  
Seattle, WA 98125-8007

