## POISON PREVENTION

## Poison Help Hotline 800-222-1222

Each year thousands of people living in New Jersey are exposed to hazards where they live, work and play. The third week in March has been dedicated to National Poison Prevention, in an effort to educate people on the potentially harmful substances encountered in their everyday lives. There are 55 national poison control centers dedicated to promoting the importance of recognizing poisoning risks, preventing poisoning exposures, and raising awareness about life-saving services. The Poison Help Hotline at 800-222-1222 is available 24/7 anywhere in the U.S. and connects callers to their local poison control center. The hotline helps callers of all ages, in any language and for all types of poisoning exposures. They field calls about medicines, chemicals, and substances, as well as calls regarding food poisoning, carbon monoxide, bites and stings, drug overdoses, plant exposures, and foreign bodies such as coins, magnets, and batteries.

Last year, the NJ Poison Control Center provided medical information and treatment advice to nearly 50,000 callers. Calling your local poison control center for help can make the difference between a mild health episode and a serious one, potentially eliminating unnecessary trips to the hospital. For more information about NJ's Poison Control Center, click on their link <a href="here">here</a>.