



JAMES IRETON, JR.
MAYOR

TOM STEVENSON
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

JULIA GLANZ
ASSITANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR

City of Salisbury



MARYLAND



RICHARD A. HOPPES
FIRE CHIEF

325 CYPRESS STREET
SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21801
Tel: 410-548-3120
Fax: 410-548-3121

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
May 3, 2015

Contact: Fire Chief Richard A. Hoppes
410-548-3120 (Office)

Spring Cleaning- Chemical Safety

With the warmer temperatures taking over homeowners are opening up the windows to their houses and letting the fresh air of spring indoors. This time of year many people spend a great deal of time conducting the yearly spring cleaning. We use many chemicals to clean our house and make it smell good, but they can pose a serious health risk if they are mishandled. Here are a few safety tips.

Chemicals in and around the home can poison people or pets and can cause long-term health effects. Every 13 seconds, a poison control center in the United States answers a call about a possible poisoning. More than 90% of these exposures occur in the home. Poisoning can result from medicines, pesticides, household cleaning products, carbon monoxide, and lead.

- Always place cleaning supplies far out of reach of children.
- Install child safety latches on floor level storage areas.
- Do not mix cleaning supplies in different containers.
- Only use cleaning supplies in proper ventilated spaces.
- Read the directions on the container prior to using.
- Read all warning labels. Certain chemicals if mixed can be fatal.
- Use only the proper amount of chemical to clean.
- Never leave containers unsecured.

If a child or an adult is exposed to a chemical it is best to contact 911 immediately and have them evaluated. Also if you have questions about an exposure you can contact The National Poison Control (1-800-222-1222). Additional safety information can be found on the Salisbury Fire Department's website at salisburyfd.com. The Salisbury Fire Department wishes everyone a fire safe May 2015.