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National Poison Prevention Week An Important Chance to Raise Awareness

National Poison Prevention Week begins Sunday and the Lawton/Fort Sill Community Coalition is urging Southwest Oklahomans to educate themselves about poisoning in the home and how to prevent it.

“Poisonings are easier to prevent than to treat,” said Brooke Mahoney of the Wichita Mountains Prevention Network. “Every day, the Oklahoma Poison Control Center receives calls from the distraught parents, grandparents, caregivers and babysitters who didn’t think a poisoning could happen to their loved one. Unfortunately, children are at a greater risk for a poisoning exposure because of their natural curiosity to explore the world. Toddlers tend to explore using their hands as well as their mouths. It can take less than a second for a child to drink or eat a poison that could be life-threatening. Children’s bodies are physically less able to tolerate toxic chemicals.”