

## KEEP YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SAFE— READ THE LABEL FIRST!

- ✓ Always keep products in their original containers.
- ✓ Reading the label can help the environment.
- ✓ Know where to call for help. Have your local poison control center number handy by the phone, along with the product label.

## SAVE MONEY BY READING THE LABEL.

- ✓ Buy the right product for the job.
- ✓ Buy the right amount for your needs.

Developed by the Consumer Labeling Initiative:  
A Government, Industry, and Public Partnership.

Visit our Web site at:

**[www.epa.gov/oppt/labeling](http://www.epa.gov/oppt/labeling)**

For more information call:

National Pesticide Telecommunications Network  
800 858-7378

National Antimicrobial Information Network  
800 447-6349



This brochure is provided by the University of Tennessee Extension in partnership with the Tennessee Poison Center.



<http://www.tnpoisoncenter.org>  
<http://fcs.tennessee.edu/healthsafety/poisonSafe.htm>



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# Read the Label First!

PROTECT YOUR HOUSEHOLD



The Consumer Labeling Initiative:  
A Government, Industry, & Public Partnership





# Read the Label *First!*

**M**any household products such as cleaners and pesticides could harm children, pets or the environment if not used and stored correctly. Simply reading a product's label will help you keep your family, pets, and community safe. Reading the label can even save you money.

## KEEP YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SAFE

### READ THE LABEL FIRST!

Labels tell you:

- ▶ How to use a product safely and effectively.
- ▶ How to store the product safely.
- ▶ First aid instructions.
- ▶ Phone numbers to call for help or more information.

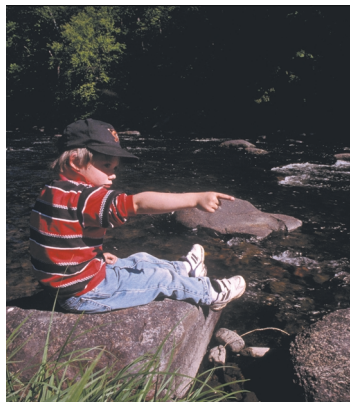
### ALWAYS KEEP PRODUCTS IN ORIGINAL CONTAINERS.

- ▶ It is very dangerous to put products in food and beverage containers. Children think that something in a familiar juice or soda bottle is good to drink.
- ▶ If you throw away the original container, you throw away important information needed in case of an emergency.



- ▶ If there is an accident, you need information on the original label to help with treatment.
- ▶ If the label tells you to mix a product in another container, use all of the mixture. If you can't use all the mixture, label the new container for use in the future.

### PREVENT HARM TO THE ENVIRONMENT.



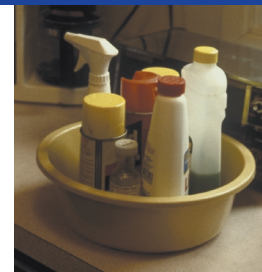
- ▶ Applying product where it could run into ponds, creeks, or other water supplies can contaminate drinking water and kill fish and birds.
- ▶ Applying product according to label directions is necessary to prevent harm to the environment.
- ▶ Never pour lawn and garden products down a drain.



## SAVE MONEY BY READING THE LABEL

### BUY THE RIGHT PRODUCT FOR THE JOB.

Read the label to make sure it's the right product for the job. Buying the right product the first time will save you money and frustration.



### BUY THE RIGHT AMOUNT FOR YOUR NEEDS.

Buy only what you need. If you buy too much for your needs, pass the product on to someone else who can use it. Some products might not be good if stored for long periods of time. The larger size might not be a good value if you can't use it all.

### USE THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF PRODUCT FOR THE JOB.

Labels indicate the correct amount to use. Using more than what's recommended is not better—it just wastes the product and the money you've spent. In some cases, using more than the recommended amount can hurt people, pets, and the environment.