



## USDA-CSREES 2005 National Water Quality Conference

### Caution, Warning, Danger, Poison: Bay-Wise Hazardous Household Products Youth Curriculum Teacher's Guide

#### **Abstract:**

*CWDP – Hazards With Household Products is a 45-page teaching packet designed to be used by Bay-Wise Master Gardener volunteers to teach youth about hazardous household products (HHP) as part of an environmental education curriculum. The target audience is mid to upper elementary school aged children. The duration of the course is three to four hours spread over 4 days (45 to 60 minutes per session). The teaching packet, written by the Educator, includes the teacher's guide, student worksheets, several handouts from the MD Poison Control Center, a 25-gallon plastic storage container full of examples of alternatives to HHP and an evaluation tool. Specifically, students learn the potential dangers of common household products; the four signal words associated with HHP; how to handle an accidental poisoning incident; the impact of improperly disposed of HHP on the environment; and alternatives to HHP. The curriculum was developed and piloted in summer 2003, and the teacher's guide printed and distributed in October 2003. Forty-five notebooks were printed in-house using a color printer and additional materials purchased and assembled through a \$2,500 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. As of September 30, 2004, 22 binders have been distributed to county Master Gardener Programs, 4-H State Coordinator, county 4-H Educators, a local Girl Scouts club and one Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection Natural Resource specialist. Use of the curriculum by volunteers should commence in 2005.*

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