



Department of Health
Agency of Human Services



Mushrooms Could be Toxic to Children

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BURLINGTON – The Department of Health is reminding parents and caregivers to watch young children closely and teach them not to touch, taste or smell wild mushrooms. Four cases of children eating wild mushrooms over a two-day period in Vermont were reported by the **Northern New England Poison Control Center**.

One of the four children went to the emergency room. However, according to the New England Poison Control Center, no serious effects resulted. Many toxic mushrooms look like edible mushrooms. As little as one bite of a toxic mushroom could cause serious illness or death.

A wet spring has provided an ideal growing environment for mushrooms on lawns and in the woods. Young children playing outside and investigating may put mushrooms into their hands or mouth.

If you have questions or concerns about wild mushrooms, call the New England Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222. Trained nurses and pharmacists staff the Poison Center's 24-hour help line.

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