Safely Storing Marijuana



The Case for Safe Storage

Marijuana (cannabis) is a drug that is often used for its psychoactive or medicinal effects. While medical marijuana may offer benefits to some adults, it can be harmful if too much is consumed or if it is consumed by children or pets. It has also been shown that it may be detrimental to a teen's brain development.

Safe storage of marijuana products is essential. Locking up marijuana keeps it safely out of the wrong hands, helping to prevent accidental poisoning of children and pets, as well as reducing associated emergency room visits.

Children and Pets

Children can mistake edible forms of marijuana for candy or regular food. These edible products have very high amounts of marijuana and can cause severe symptoms if eaten by a small child. Signs of marijuana intoxication in a child often include:

- Sleepiness (ranging from drowsy to difficult to wake)
- Loss of coordination
- Trouble breathing

Effects in pets are similar and may include vomiting, depression, and excess salivating.

Cases of marijuana intoxication in children and pets have increased with the legalization of marijuana. It's important to always safely store marijuana products to keep children and pets safe.

Safe Storage Tips

Keep it out of sight and out of reach.

Store marijuana out of sight of curious children and pets. Choose a safe place that is too high for them to reach.

Put it away every time.

Put every marijuana product away every time you use it, including those you use every day.

Purchase a lock box or lock bag.

Lock boxes/bags are an affordable and convenient way to keep marijuana products from being accessed by children and pets.

Teach children not to touch products with a marijuana label.

In Michigan, a universal symbol for marijuana is required to be placed on all marijuana products. Teach children to avoid items with this label.



If you think a child has consumed marijuana, call the poison control hotline at 1-800-222-1222

If the child is having a severe reaction,

Call 911 immediately.

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only and is not intended for self-diagnosis or as a substitute for consultation with a health care provider. For more information contact your health care provider or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov. August 2021