



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR

**PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, all residents of the City of Chicago should be made aware of the ever-present dangers posed by potentially poisonous household substances; and

WHEREAS, children too often have access to over the counter and prescription medications, and potentially toxic household products; and

WHEREAS, over the past 50 years, the nation has observed National Poison Prevention Week to help prevent accidental poisonings and share tips for promoting active community involvement and increased awareness in poison prevention; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Poison Center has continued to provide timely poison prevention and treatment services to the people of Illinois for over 60 years as the oldest and one of the largest poison centers in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Poison Center is a mainstay in the emergency medical care system of the State of Illinois and is recognized nationally for its contributions to poison treatment and prevention; and

WHEREAS, 45 percent of the more than 80,000 poisonings reported last year to the Illinois Poison Center involved children under the age of five and could have been prevented; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois Poison Center carefully manages, evaluates, and resolves approximately 90 percent of cases from the general public at home preventing about 4,800 unnecessary emergency room visits in Chicago alone:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, do hereby proclaim March 2018 to be POISON PREVENTION MONTH IN CHICAGO, and urge all Chicagoans to educate themselves about the potentially harmful substances in their homes and take the necessary steps in creating healthy and safe home, play, and work environments.

Dated this 18th day of January, 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rahm Emanuel".  
Mayor