

AUGUST 2026

THE POISON PREVENTION SCRIPT

Monsoon Safety

Monsoon season in the desert is a welcome relief from the high temperatures we experience during the summer. While beautiful, monsoon rains can bring their own hazards. From heavy rains that can cause flash floods to severe thunderstorms that bring damaging winds we hope these tips can bring you some comfort in being prepared this monsoon season.



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Information Center





Monsoon Safety Tips

Have an Emergency Kit Ready

Having an emergency kit readily available with essential items your family may need is an excellent first step in monsoon season preparation. Consider the following items for your kit; a battery-powered radio, flashlights, fresh batteries, a first aid kit, nonperishable food and drinking water. Don't forget to include your pet's food and water as well. An emergency medicine kit should also include a 7-day supply of any personal prescription medications for you or your family.

Stay Away from Downed Power Lines

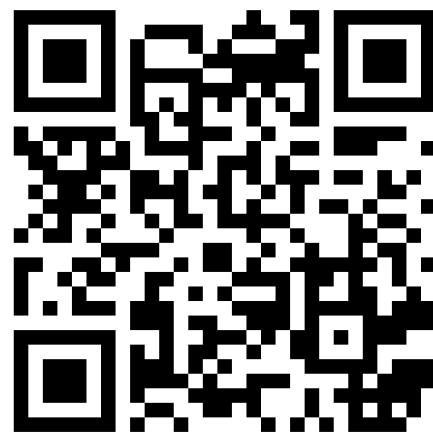
During severe weather strong winds can cause downed power lines. It's important to remember that a downed power line can still be energized and deadly, even if it looks safe. Always keep yourself and others away from downed lines. You can call 911 to report any downed lines.

Stay Cool in Extreme Heat

Power outages can occur during storms and last long after the storm has passed. These outages in combination with extreme heat can pose a real health concern. Drink plenty of water and wear breathable clothing. If possible, relocate to a community cooling center or a family or friends house if it is safe to do so. Consider store bought products such as battery powered fans, or cooling towels to help lower your body temperature.

The best safety tip for monsoon season is to be aware. Make sure to follow the tips above and create a plan with your household in case of extreme weather.

For more information:



**Scan the QR code or
visit the National
Weather Service
Monsoon Safety page
for more information.**





Peak Rattlesnake Season Prevention Tips

Warmer temperatures increase the chance of running into one of our favorite desert dwellers; the rattlesnake. While many believe rattlesnakes prefer the hot summer heat to sunbathe in. They prefer mornings and cool summer nights to come out. We typically see bites most during these times of day. It is always a good idea to be aware during these peak hours. Consider checking for rattlesnakes before allowing children to spend time outside, or before letting your dog outside in the morning or evening. If you are bitten, the only treatment for a rattlesnake bite is antivenom, which can only be given in a hospital.



In the Community: Library Outreach and Poison Prevention

This month Taylor was able to make a trip up to Flagstaff to attend the Coconino County Health and Human Services Back to School Health Fair! She was able to share poison prevention information with students and families. One example being medication safety at school. Reach more for tips on preparing your child for back to school.

- Teach older children and teens how to read medicine labels and follow dosing instructions.
- Caution children never to share medicine. Medication not meant for them may be very harmful.
- Inform the school nurse or administration of medication your child takes, and make a plan with them for your child's medicine schedule.
- Avoid sending medication in backpacks or lunch boxes.



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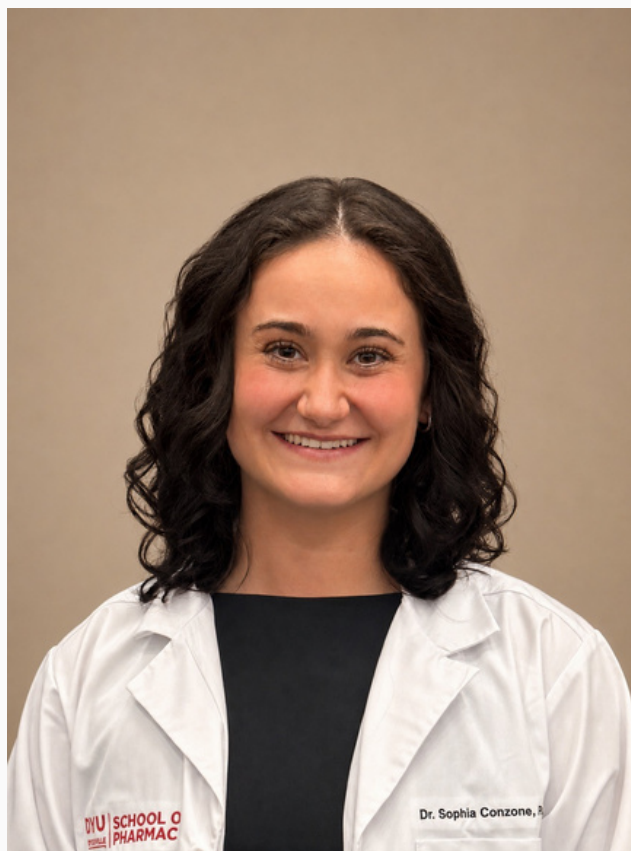
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<https://azpoison.com/education-outreach/poison-prevention-script>

Staff Spotlight: Sophia Conzone, PharmD



Sophia joined the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center in July 2026 as a Clinical Toxicology Fellow. Originally from Syracuse, New York, she earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from D'Youville University before moving to Tucson to pursue specialized training in clinical toxicology.

As a fellow, Sophia helps care for patients with poisonings, overdoses, envenomations, and other toxicologic emergencies through consultation with healthcare professionals and bedside evaluations. Her training also includes research and education, and she is particularly interested in expanding pharmacist involvement in clinical toxicology.