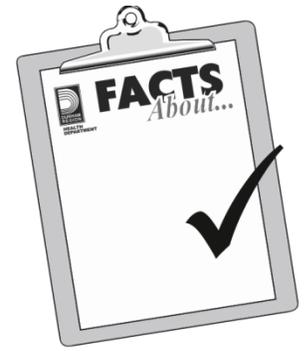




FACTS *About...*



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Poison Ivy

What is it?

Poison Ivy is a three leaved poisonous outdoor plant. The plant leaves contains an oily sap called *urshiol* that causes an allergic skin reaction.

How is it spread?

Direct contact with the plant can cause a skin rash. Objects that have been in contact with the plant may also carry the sap. Smoke from burning poison ivy may cause lung and skin reactions.

What do I look for?

Most people will develop an itchy red rash with bumps or blisters within a few days of contact with the sap. Oozing blisters are not contagious.

How is it treated?

A mild rash can be treated with cool cloths, a cool shower or lukewarm bath and antihistamines. Consult a health care provider if:

- Nothing soothes the rash
- The rash looks infected
- There is a fever
- The rash is on the face or genitals
- There is swelling on the face

How can I protect myself?

- Wash skin thoroughly with soap and cold running water after contact

over . . .

For more information

Durham Region Health Department

905-668-2020 1-800-841-2729 durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

Poison Ivy

- Remove all clothing and carefully wash in hot soapy water
- Know what the plant looks like and avoid contact with it
- Do not burn outdoor plants that may be poison ivy
- If you become ill, contact your health care provider



June 1, 2018

For more information

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