



WORLD PARROT TRUST

PROTECT YOUR BIRD FROM DANGER

Common Household Poisons



REDUCING RISKS IN THE HOME

Many items within our homes can be fatal to birds when ingested or inhaled. Some can kill immediately, while others may cause severe health issues that can result in death with continued exposure.

The following list is intended as a guideline only.



COMMON TOXINS

- acetone
- aerosols
- air fresheners
- alcohol
- ammonia
- ant & insect killer
- antifreeze
- arsenic
- asbestos
- batteries
- bleach
- boric acid
- candles (*solid and liquid*)
- carbon dioxide
- carbon monoxide
- carbon tetrachloride
- carpet cleaner
- cat bite (*bacteria from*)
- chalk
- charcoal lighter
- chlorine
- chocolate
- copper, brass and silver polish
- corn and wart remover
- costume jewellery
- crayons
- curtain weights
- deodorants
- detergents, spot removers
- disinfectants, cleaning products
- drain cleaners
- epoxy glue
- fabric softeners, dryer sheets
- fishing weights, lures
- floor polish
- foil (*aluminum*)
- furniture polish
- galvanised wire (*some types*)

- garden sprays
- glazed ceramics
- gun cleaner
- gunpowder, lead shot
- hair dyes, perm solutions
- hair spray
- hardware cloth
- herbicides
- hexachlorophene (*present in some soaps*)
- incense
- iodine
- kerosene
- lead
- leaded or stained windows
- leather (*dyed or tanned with chemicals*)
- lighter fluid
- linoleum (*may contain lead salts or asbestos*)
- matches
- metal hardware
- mothballs
- mould
- mushrooms (*some varieties*)
- nail polish & remover
- nicotine (*airborne, can also be absorbed through birds' feet*)
- oven cleaner
- oven cooking bags
- paint
- paint remover
- paint thinner
- perfume, cologne
- pesticides, insecticides
- petroleum products
- plants, flowers (*some: see next page*)

- prescription / non-prescription medications
- rodenticides
- rubbing alcohol
- shaving lotion
- smoke (*all – e.g. cigarettes, unattended food, wood stoves, cigars, candles*)
- solder
- sunscreen / suntan lotion
- Teflon / non-stick coating (*Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) present in some pans, appliances, stain-resistant furniture, clothing*)
- topical creams, lotions (*can be absorbed through birds' feet*)
- turpentine
- wax (*floor, furniture*)
- weed killers
- window cleaners
- wood (*some types - cedar, red cherry, plywood, oak, pressure-treated*)
- wood preservative
- zinc



Always consult an avian vet if you think your bird has been exposed to a toxic substance.



TOXIC PLANTS FOR BIRDS

Be sure to correctly identify all plants in your bird's environment by using the scientific name. If uncertain, remove the plant.



Abbreviations: sp. = species, spp. = subspecies

PLANT NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	POISONOUS PART
Acokanthera	<i>Acokanthera spp.</i>	All parts toxic
Amaryllis	<i>Amaryllidaceae</i>	Bulbs
American Yew	<i>Taxus canadensis</i>	Needles, seeds
Angel's Trumpet	<i>Datura spp.</i>	Leaves, seeds, flowers
Apricot	<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>	Pits, leaves, and bark
Autumn Crocus	<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	Bulb
Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	Pit, leaves, unripe fruit & stems
Azalea	<i>Rhododendron occidentale</i>	Leaves
Balsam Pear	<i>Momordica charantia</i>	Seeds, outer rind of fruit
Baneberry	<i>Actaea spp.</i>	Berries, roots
Belladonna	<i>Atropa belladonna</i>	All parts
Bird of Paradise	<i>Caesalpinia gilliesii</i>	Seeds
Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus spp.</i>	All parts
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Bark, sprouts, foliage
Bleeding Heart	<i>Dicentra</i>	All parts
Bluegreen Algae	<i>Schizophycaea spp</i>	Some forms toxic
Bracken Fern	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	All parts
Boxwood (some varieties)	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Leaves, stems
Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus spp.</i>	Fruit, bark
Burdock	<i>Arctium spp.</i>	All parts
Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus spp.</i>	Sap, bulbs
Calla Lily	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Leaves
Caladium	<i>Caladium spp.</i>	Leaves and rhizome
Castor Oil Plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Beans, leaves
Catclaw Acacia	<i>Acacia greggii</i>	Twigs and leaves
Chalice Vine	<i>Solandra spp.</i>	All parts
Cherry Tree	<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Bark, twigs, leaves, pits
Chinaberry	<i>Melia azadarach</i>	All parts
Chokecherry	<i>Birdcherry Prunus</i>	Seeds (stones)
Christmas Candle	<i>Euphorbia tithymaloides</i>	Sap
Clematis	<i>Clematis spp.</i>	All parts
Coral Plant	<i>Jatropha multifida</i>	Seeds
Cowslip	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Seeds
Crocus (Autumn)	<i>Cholchicum autumnale</i>	All parts
Cycad or Sago Palm	<i>Cycas revoluta</i>	All parts
Daffodil	<i>Narcissus spp</i>	Bulbs
Daphne	<i>Daphne spp.</i>	Berries



TOXIC PLANTS FOR BIRDS

Be sure to correctly identify all plants in your bird's environment by using the scientific name. If uncertain, remove the plant.

Abbreviations: sp. = species, spp. = subspecies



PLANT NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	POISONOUS PART
Datura	<i>Datura spp.</i>	Berries
Deadly Amanita	<i>Amanita muscaria</i>	All parts
Death Camas	<i>Zigadenus elegans</i>	All parts
Delphinium	<i>Delphinium spp.</i>	All parts
Devil's Ivy	<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	All parts
Dieffenbachia	<i>Dieffenbachia sp.</i>	Leaves
Eggplant	<i>Solanaceae spp.</i>	All parts but fruit
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus mexicana</i>	Roots, leaves, stems, bark
Elephant's Ear (taro)	<i>Colcasia sp.</i>	Leaves, stem
English Ivy	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Berries, leaves
English Yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Needles, seeds
Euonymus (Spindle Tree)	<i>Euonymus spp.</i>	Fruit, bark, leaves
European Pennyroyal	<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	All parts
False Henbane	<i>Melanthium woodii</i>	All parts
Figs	<i>Ficus spp</i>	Sap
Fly Agaric Mushroom	<i>Amanita muscaria</i>	All parts
Four O'clock	<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i>	All parts
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Leaves, seeds
Golden Chain (laburnum)	<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	All parts, especially seeds
Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium spp.</i>	Leaves
Hemlock	<i>poison Conium spp.</i>	All parts, especially roots & seeds
Hemlock	<i>water Conium spp.</i>	All parts, especially roots & seeds
Henbane	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	Seeds
Holly	<i>Ilex spp.</i>	Berries
Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus spp.</i>	Nuts, twigs
Horse Nettle	<i>Solanum carolinense</i>	All parts
Hyacinth	<i>Hyacinthus orientalis</i>	Bulbs
Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea spp.</i>	Flower, bud
Indian turnip (jackinthepulpit)	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	All parts
Iris (blue flag)	<i>Iris spp.</i>	Bulbs
Ivy (Boston, English, others)	<i>Hedera spp.</i>	All parts
Japanese Yew	<i>Taxus cuspidata</i>	Needles, seeds
Java Bean (lima bean)	<i>Phaseolus lunatus</i>	Uncooked beans
Jerusalem Cherry	<i>Solanum pseudocapsicum</i>	Berries
Jessamine, Yellow	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Leaves, stems
Jonquil	<i>Narcissus jonquilla</i>	All parts
Jimsonweed (thornapple)	<i>Datura spp.</i>	Leaves, seeds



TOXIC PLANTS FOR BIRDS

Be sure to correctly identify all plants in your bird's environment by using the scientific name. If uncertain, remove the plant.

Abbreviations: sp. = species, spp. = subspecies



PLANT NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	POISONOUS PART
Juniper	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Needles, stems, berries
Lantana or Verbena	<i>Lantana spp.</i>	Immature berries
Larkspur	<i>Delphinium spp.</i>	All parts
Laurel Kalmia, Ledum	<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	All parts
Lily of the Valley	<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	All parts, including their water
Lobelia	<i>Lobelia spp.</i>	All parts
Locoweed	<i>Astragalus mollissimus</i>	All parts
Lords and Ladies	<i>Arum sp.</i>	All parts
Lupine	<i>Lupinus spp.</i>	All parts
Marijuana	<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	Leaves
Mayapple, Wild Mandrake	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	All parts, except fruit
Mescal Bean	<i>Dermatophyllum sp.</i>	Seeds
Mistletoe	<i>Santalales spp.</i>	Berries
Milkweed	<i>Asclepias spp.</i>	All parts
Mock, Bitter, or Hardy Orange	<i>Poncirus spp.</i>	Fruit
Monkshood	<i>Aconitum spp.</i>	Leaves, roots
Moonseed	<i>Menispermum canadense</i>	All parts
Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea spp.</i>	All parts
Mushrooms	<i>Amanita spp. and others</i>	All parts
Narcissus	<i>Narcissus spp.</i>	Bulbs
Nightshades (<i>all types</i>)	<i>Solanum spp.</i>	Berries, leaves
Oak	<i>Quercus sp.</i>	Acorn, young plant
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Leaves, branches, blossom nectar
Pennyroyal	<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	All parts
Peach	<i>Prunus persica</i>	Leaves, pit, bark
Peony	<i>Paeonia officinalis</i>	All parts
Periwinkle	<i>Vinca minor, Vinca rosea</i>	All parts
Peyote	<i>Lophophora williamsii</i>	All parts
Philodendron	<i>Philodendron spp.</i>	Leaves, stems
Pigweed	<i>Amaranthus spp.</i>	All parts
Pittosporum, Cheesewoods	<i>Pittosporaceae</i>	All parts
Plum	<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Leaves, pit, bark
Poison Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	All parts
Poison Ivy	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Sap
Poison Oak	<i>Toxicodendron quercifolium</i>	Sap
Poison Sumac	<i>Toxicodendron vernix</i>	All parts
Poinsettia	<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>	Leaves, flowers



TOXIC PLANTS FOR BIRDS

Be sure to correctly identify all plants in your bird's environment by using the scientific name. If uncertain, remove the plant.



Abbreviations: sp. = species, spp. = subspecies

PLANT NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	POISONOUS PART
Pokeweed (inkberry)	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Leaves, roots, immature berries
Poppy	<i>Papaver somniferum</i> & related	All parts
Potato	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	Eyes and new shoots
Pothos	<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	All parts
Primrose	<i>Primula spp.</i>	All parts
Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	All parts, including berries
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> & related	All parts
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	All parts
Rhododendron	<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	All parts
Rhubarb	<i>Rheum spp.</i>	Leaves
Rosary Pea (Indian licorice)	<i>Abrus precatorius</i>	Seeds
Sage	<i>Salvia officinalis</i>	All parts
Sedum, Stonecrop	<i>Sedum spp.</i>	All parts
Shamrock Plant	<i>Oxalis triangularis</i>	All parts
Skunk Cabbage	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	All parts
Snowdrop	<i>Galanthus sp.</i>	All parts, especially buds
Snow on the Mountain	<i>Euphorbia marginata</i>	All parts
Sorrel, Wood Sorrel	<i>Oxalis, Oxalis acetosella</i>	All parts
Spindle Tree	<i>Euonymus</i>	Leaves, fruit, bark
Spurges	<i>Euphorbia spp.</i>	All parts
Star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	All parts
Sweet Pea	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Seeds and fruit
Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	All parts
Tobacco	<i>Nicotiana</i>	Leaves
Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i>	Stems and leaves
Tulip	<i>Tulipa spp.</i>	All parts
Vetches	<i>Vicia spp.</i>	All parts
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Sap
Water Hemlock	<i>Cicuta spp.</i>	All parts
Waxberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	All parts
Western Yew	<i>Taxus breviflora</i>	Needles, seeds
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	All parts
Wisteria	<i>Wisteria spp.</i>	All parts
Yam Bean	<i>Pachyrhizus erosus</i>	Roots, immature pods

