

Quick Review of Safety

Wild Parsnip and Poison Ivy

RECOGNITION OF WILD PARSNIP (SEE PHOTOS BELOW)

- Features hollow, grooved stalks with small yellow flowers on a wide flat umbel (2-6 inches across)
- Leaves at the base tend to wrap around the stem.
- Five to 15 leaves per stem near the base, with two to five smaller leaves per stem higher up. Stems appear similar to celery.
- When dead or dormant, the plant turns brown, and can still cause injury if contacting the sap, though sap often dries up.
- Grows along trails or roads often.



HAZARDS AND PREVENTION OF WILD PARSNIP

- Contact with the plant's sap can cause severe blistering and swelling. Cover bare skin when working in areas where wild parsnip grows.
- Avoid contact with the plant, and stay away when possible.
- When handling, wear protective clothing, including gloves, long sleeves and goggles or face mask.
- If contact is made, cover exposed area and keep away from sunlight. Wash exposed area thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible.
- Report any contact or injuries to a supervisor, and obtain medical treatment if needed.

(Over)

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RECOGNITION OF POISON IVY

- 1-2 foot shrub, with three shiny surfaced leaves.
- Leaves are arranged in groups of three attached to a single stem. Remember: Leaves of three, leave it be.
- Leaves often appear hairy and may have smooth or jagged edges.
- Female plants have small, creamy or tannish berries from August through September and remain over winter.
- Grows along trails and paths of travel, often at the edge of the tree line.



HAZARDS AND PREVENTION OF POISON IVY

- Contact with the sap and broken parts of the plant may cause blistering or rashes.
- Avoid contact with the plant, and stay away when possible.
- Wear protective clothing, including vinyl gloves with long sleeves, if handling.
- Wash clothing and equipment after handling poison ivy, as contact with the oils can still cause reactions up to five years later. For equipment that cannot go in the washer, hand wash with dish soap.
- Avoid breathing in smoke from burning poison ivy; it may damage lungs and airways.
- If you contact poison ivy, wash the area thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible, ideally within one hour.
- Report any contact or injuries to a supervisor, and obtain medical treatment if needed.



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