

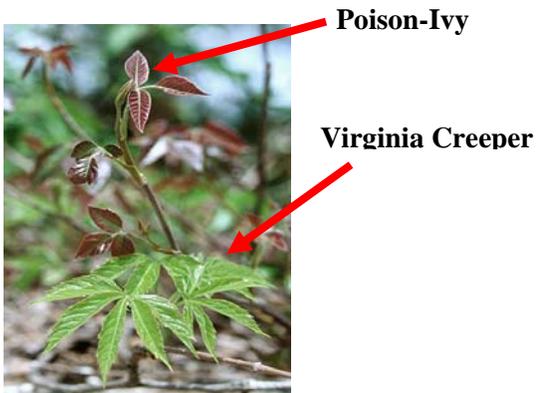
PLANTS TO AVOID

POISON-IVY ~ *Toxicodendron radicans*

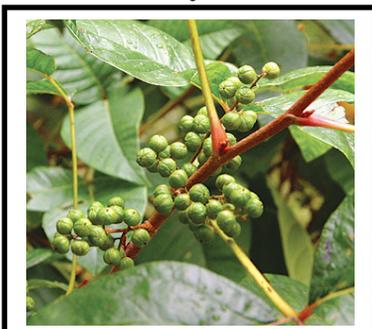
Poison-Ivy



Rash from contact with Poison-Ivy



Poison-Ivy Berries



Poison-Ivy is a plant capable of causing severe skin irritations, itching and blistering of the skin in areas of contact. This is caused by Urushiol, an oil found in Poison-Ivy, Poison-Oak & Poison Sumac.

If performing a burn in an area known or thought to be infested with Poison-Ivy, avoid inhaling the smoke. The sooty smoke will cause severe external AND internal damage (Esophageal swelling, closing, swelling around the eyes, and other severe lung injuries).

Approximately 90% of people are allergic to Urushiol to varying degrees.

Frequent exposure to Urushiol can lead to immunity, but in most cases it will lead to more severe reactions.

Urushiol oil stays active on any surface, including dead plants, for up to 5 years.

The vine Virginia Creeper (5 leaves) is commonly mistaken for Poison-Ivy (3 leaves).

Poison-Ivy produces white or green berry clusters which are eaten by wildlife, with no ill effects.

Remedies:

Swabbing with alcohol, or washing with soap immediately after exposure *MIGHT* remove the oil irritant.

There are pharmaceutical products available for both before and after exposure to Urushiol oils.

Some products to help dry oozing blisters:

- Aluminum acetate (Burrows solution)
- Baking soda
- Aveeno (oatmeal bath)
- Aluminum hydroxide gel
- Calamine lotion
- Kaolin
- Zinc acetate
- Zinc carbonate
- Zinc oxide

Leaves of Three, Let it Be!