Take Care When Using Flea and Tick Control Products

*Pet owners should be careful when applying flea and tick products. These are pesticides, and contain chemicals that may be harmful to people and pets, especially if the product is not used properly.*

Follow these tips when using flea and tick products:

- Read the product label first! Labels contain important information about proper use.
- Apply only the recommended dose; more can be harmful to you and your pet.
- If the product gets on skin, wash immediately. Consider wearing gloves when applying.
- Do not touch treated pets, carpet or furniture until the product dries.
- Make sure you are using the correct product. Some products are for pets; others just for carpet and furniture.
- Do not use dog treatments on cats, or cat treatments on dogs.
- Be certain of your pet’s weight and purchase the appropriate treatment.
- Safely store products away from children and pets.

Use less pesticide. If your pet brings fleas into the house:

- Vacuum regularly to remove food, larvae and eggs.
- Wash fabrics and bedding in hot water and high heat dryer setting.
- Groom your pet with a flea comb. These combs remove adult fleas, flea dirt, and dried blood from your pet’s skin and fur.

In a poison emergency or for more poison information:

[Upstate New York Poison Center](http://www.upstatepoison.org) 1-800-222-1222

[health.ny.gov](http://health.ny.gov)