

# AUBURN PHARMACY

## POISON IVY

*"Leaves of three, let it be."*

### Facts

- Poison ivy looks different depending on the season.
- Poison ivy leaves release a clear fluid called urushiol. Urushiol turns into black lacquer after being exposed to oxygen.
- Urushiol is what causes a poison ivy rash.
- Up to 80% of the US population is sensitive to poison ivy.
- A person's sensitivity to poison ivy increases with age.
- Be careful burning poison ivy leaves because the smoke can get into the lungs and make it difficult to breathe.

### Signs & Symptoms

The first sign of a poison ivy reaction is extreme itching followed by weeping lesions that eventually crust over. The first couple of days are the most uncomfortable. There are many over-the-counter products that are available to help with poison ivy.

### Prevention:

#### IvyBlock lotion

- Only FDA approved protection against exposure
- Do not use on children 6 years old or younger
- Do not use around eyes, wounds, or existing poison ivy rash -Highly flammable
- Apply at least 15 minutes before exposure
- Reapply every 4 hours

#### Removal:

##### Zanfel

- Effective at removing urushiol
- Reduces redness and blistering after exposure

##### Tecnu Outdoor Skin Cleanser

- Effective at removing urushiol
- Relieves itching

### Treatment for Itching & Lesions:

#### Hydrocortisone Cream

- Apply 2-4 times a day as needed
- Do not apply bandage/dressing
- Only use for 7 days
- Calamine
- Helps relieve itching
- Assists in drying of lesions

#### Domeboro

- Helps relieve itching
- Assists in drying of lesions

### Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is my poison ivy rash contagious?

A: No. The rash cannot pass from person to person after the urushiol is removed.

Q: What is the difference between poison ivy and poison oak?

A: Poison ivy and poison oak leaves look slightly different. However, coming in contact with either one will cause the same type of rash and can be treated the same.

Q: How long will my poison ivy rash last?

A: A poison ivy rash will resolve within 10-21 days on its own.



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*"Caring for the health of you and your community"*

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