FIRST AID
- give a glass or two of water
- cause vomiting with ipecac syrup (pharmacy-only medicine) or with fingers down the throat

Do not cause vomiting if patient is unconscious or convulsing.

Seek urgent medical attention for follow-up treatment

National Poisons Centre 24-hour emergency service: 0800-764-766

CUTE AND CUDDLY?
NO!

Help your child to understand the possum problem. Use these suggestions as talking points.

Possums are pests because...
- they damage our native forest. Possums strip the plants of fruit, flowers and leaves. This damages plants and can kill them;
- they eat the same foods that many birds need, so birds don’t have enough to eat;
- they eat eggs and chicks of our native birds. They also eat our native land snails and insects;
- they spread disease called Tb which makes cows and deer very sick. People cannot eat meat from sick animals.

Possums are pests!

There are over 70 million possums in New Zealand. That’s 70 million too many! Possums are destroying our native forests and threatening our export trade in beef and dairy products.

Remember...
- keep children away from sign-posted areas
- 1080 is a poison – do not touch green baits
- act quickly if poisoning occurs
- tell your children to keep their pets, particularly dogs, away from baits and carcasses.

Together we can protect our forests and farms – safely!

For further information about possum control and the use of 1080, please contact your Regional Council or nearest Department of Conservation office.

www.npca.org.nz

National Pest Control Agencies

PRODUCED BY National Pest Control Agencies

THE POSSUM BUSTERS ARE COMING

Possum control using 1080 poison will soon be undertaken in an area near you.
What's being done?

Your Regional Council and/or the Department of Conservation is undertaking a possum control operation to protect forests and farms in your area.

The control programme will include the use of 1080 poison baits, either aerially distributed, placed in bait stations or placed on the ground.

How will you know about the possum control operation?

Signs like this will mark the poison area:

Keep young children safe

Young children are curious about their environment. New and different objects catch their attention.

1080 is a poison and all poisons are dangerous. Saying “don’t touch” is not enough...

Keep young children away from signposted areas!

You can also

- teach children that the signs mean ‘keep out’
- strongly discourage children from eating anything they find without asking you
- prevent children from touching dead possums – the possums may be poisoned or diseased
- tell your children to keep their pets, particularly dogs, away from baits and carcasses.

What does 1080 look like?

Wash skin immediately if you or your child accidentally touch green baits or dead possums.

If you suspect poisoning... act immediately!

All poison baits are dyed green. Do not touch!

Keep young children away from signposted areas!

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