

# Foraging Enthusiasm Meets Fungal Toxicity; Trends From 15 Years Consulting To Poison Centers

Virtual Talk For MAW-DC. NOV. 2, 7-9:00PM



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The rapid increase in fascination about mushroom foraging is driving growth in mycological groups. The promise and allure of exotic food, health benefits and psychedelics has only increased this as pandemic-homebound Americans have turned to nature for distraction and uncrowded space. Across the US, we are seeing increasing calls to poison centers involving exposure to fungi or wild plants.

This presentation will explore:

- The range of toxins found in wild mushrooms.
- Common scenarios in toxic mushroom exposure
- High risk populations
- The most frequently involved mushroom mis-steps
- Guidelines for safe mushrooming
- And always, the stories.



Photos: Left from top: *Boletus huronensis* a very toxic Bolete, *Scleroderma cepa*, *Gymnopilus luteus*, a psychoactive mushroom, A table of foraged mushrooms with one mistake.

Front: *Amanita bisporigera*, a Destroying Angel, *Chlorophyllum molybdites*, *Omphalotus illudens*, The Jack O'lantern Mushroom

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### Greg A Marley Bio

Greg Marley has been collecting, studying, eating, growing and teaching mushrooms for over 45 years. He has spread his love of mushrooms to hundreds through walks, talks and classes held across the New England over the past 30 years. Marley is the author of *Mushrooms for Health; Medicinal Secrets of Northeastern Fungi*, (Downeast Books, 2009) and the award-winning *Chanterelle Dreams, Amanita Nightmares; The Love Lore and Mystic of Mushrooms*, (Chelsea Green, 2010). As a volunteer mushroom identification consultant to Poison Centers, he provides expertise in mushroom poisoning cases. When not mushrooming, Marley works as a mental health clinician and behavioral health consultant specializing in suicide prevention and suicide grief.