

# Poison Ivy and Oak Time!

**What do these plants look like and what to do after you make contact?**

## About Poison Ivy

Poison ivy, oak and sumac are the most common allergies in the country. Even if you have never had an allergic reaction to poison ivy, oak or sumac before, you can develop an allergy to these plants at any point in your life. The rash causing oil of these plants, urushiol, can be spread by many things such as shoes, clothes, garden utensils, fur of animals, and even the smoke of a burning poison ivy, oak or sumac plant. Because it is so easy to come in contact with these plants the painful itching rash that they cause is quite common.

## Learning More

### Is it Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, or Poison Sumac?

The reaction to poison ivy, oak and sumac can begin as early as an hour after contact or up to five days after contact. The rash usually starts with swelling and itching and then is followed by a red inflammation of pimples and blisters.

People that have come in contact with poison ivy, oak or sumac can develop swelling in the throat, dizziness, a burning feeling, weakness, and breathing problems. The reaction can vary in harshness from person to person and individuals can have varied reactions from year to year.

### How Did I Come in Contact With Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, or Poison Sumac?

Poison ivy, oak and sumac can be spread very easily and it may be hard to determine how you came in contact with the plant. Of course touching the plant can cause you to contract the rash, but you can also contract it from touching your shoes or clothing if you had walked through the plant.

The oil from poison ivy, oak and sumac plants can even be transmitted through the smoke from burning these plants. And even though pets rarely contract the rash from poison ivy, oak or sumac, the oil from these plants can be transmitted from their fur.



**Products Available on the Market to Carry on Your ATV**

*Wash away the Itch!*

**Zanfel™** Poison Ivy Wash is a safe and effective topical solution for poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac. It is the only product known to remove urushiol, the toxin responsible for the reaction, from the skin after bonding, enabling the affected area to immediately begin healing. After using **Zanfel**, the itching and pain are the first things to be relieved, usually within 30 seconds.



**Sumactin™** is a certified natural product and contains no chemically generated compounds, fillers or artificial additives.

### List of Ingredients:

**Jewelweed** – The active ingredient in Jewelweed is a chemical called lawsone. This substance has been proven to bind to the same molecular site on the skin as poison ivy, oak and sumac bind to. Lawsone beats the poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac to the molecular site and blocks the toxin from entering.

**Aloe** – Aloe soothes the rash and soothes the burn.

**Plantain** – Plantain is an herb that controls the itching.

**Soapwort** – Soapwort cleanses the infected area and eliminates the toxins that cause the poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac rash.

Sources: <http://www.sumacatin.com/#api>  
<http://www.life-assist.com/plantguide.html>

You can buy these products at Walgreen's and Rite-Aid.