

Poison still missing

A small bottle containing a poisonous substance, stolen from a sewage treatment plant at Willowbrook State School Wednesday was still unaccounted for yesterday.

The substance, bromthymol,

is a yellowish chemical used to test the acidity of solutions.

"I don't know what anyone in their right mind would do with the stuff," a spokesman for Willowbrook said. "It's only good for measuring acidity. Nothing else."

The bromthymol was discovered missing 7 a.m. Thursday. Police speculate the burglary was "an inside job," but officials of Willowbrook indicated that the treatment plant is not fenced off and easily accessible from nearby woods.

A poison expert said bromthymol has a low degree of toxicity and would prove fatal only if swallowed and untreated.