

Proper Disposal of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs for Households

Safety tips for handling of medications:

- Take prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications exactly as prescribed.
- Do not share your prescription medications with anyone. It is illegal and unsafe.
- Lock all medications up or put them out of the way of anyone, including children or pets, who might try to consume them by accident or on purpose.
- Safely dispose of any unused medications at one of the Delaware prescription medication drop boxes. (Turn over for locations.)



Why dispose of medications at drop box locations?

Protect the environment:

Proper disposal of unwanted medication is important. Unused medicine flushed or rinsed down the sink can hurt you and the environment by becoming part of groundwater which may end up in your water glass.

Protects your loved ones from the addiction epidemic:

- Drugs can also be stolen or used by friends or family. Abuse of prescription pain killers has increased over 400 percent since the year 2000.
- Almost two-thirds who abuse painkillers get their drugs for free from friends or relatives.
- Over half of teens say that they can easily obtain prescription drugs from their parents' medicine cabinets.

You can prevent accidental poisonings:

- Children and pets can find medicine in your home or trash.
- Medications may be taken by accident, on purpose, or illegally sold.

Take steps now to properly dispose of your medications for our community and environment.

For more information on preventing, recognizing and treating addiction, visit HelpishereDE.com



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