



Medication Disposal Options in Greater Lowell

Please dispose of your unused and unwanted medications to help keep your family and our community safe! By using proper disposal methods you can prevent accidental poisoning of children and pets, stop misuse by youth and adults, and keep medications from entering our water supply. Learn more about the medication disposal options in our region.



24-Hour Drop-off Services

Drop off your unwanted medications (pills only) in the unwanted medication box located in the main lobby of your local police department – no questions asked. To use, place your prescription and over-the-counter pills in a clear sandwich bag and place the sandwich bag in the slot located on the collection box.



Disposal Drop-off Days

Attend a medication disposal day drop-off event throughout the year and/or participate in the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) National Take Back Day. During the October 2019 DEA National Take Back Day, 30,959 pounds of medication were disposed of in Massachusetts alone.



Pharmacy Drop-off Services

Many pharmacies collect unwanted and unused medications. Check with your pharmacist to see which types of medications they may accept.

Contact your local health or police department to learn more about disposal options.

Help Keep Our Kids Safe From Prescription Drug Misuse

Disposing of unused and unwanted medication is one way that you can reduce the risk of medication misuse. Below are other ways that you can keep your family and our community safe.

You can help:

1

Put medications away

- Place medications, including medications prescribed for pets, in a locked drawer, pouch, cabinet, or safe.
- Keep count of the pills in each bottle at all times.
- Ask the parents of your children's friends to safeguard their medications, as well.

2

Be educated

- Talk with your doctor about alternative pain management options.
- Ask your pharmacist about the Partial-Fill Law, which allows you to request a lower opioid prescription count.
- Spread the word - talk with your family and friends about the importance of keeping medications stored and disposed of properly.

3

Talk with your kids

- Have frequent, open, and honest conversations with your children about all substances of abuse.
- Help children understand the importance of taking medications as prescribed and of the risks in sharing medications with others.
- If your child takes medication during the school day, make sure that you comply with school nurse guidelines in managing medication for students during the school day.

For more info, please visit www.drugfreegreaterlowell.org