

## Proper Disposal

# Medications and Prescription Drugs

A Guide to Doing it right in Lawrence and Mercer Counties



Medicines play an important role in treating many conditions and diseases, but when they are no longer needed it's important to dispose of them properly to avoid harm to others and the environment.

### How does the Proper Disposal of Medications Protect Me and the Environment?

- Avoids health problems from accidentally taking the wrong medicine, too much of the same medicine, or a medicine that is too old to work well.
- Prevents poisoning of children and pets.
- Keeps medicines from entering waterways when poured down the drain or flushed down the toilet.
- Deters intentional misuse.

### What Options do I have?

Medicine take-back programs for disposal are a good way to remove expired, unwanted, or unused medicines from the home and reduce the chance that others may accidentally take the medicine. You can talk to your pharmacist to see if he or she knows of other medicine disposal programs in your area or visit the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's website for information on National Prescription Drug Take-Back Events.

The PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs website provides a searchable database to help Pennsylvania residents locate a medication dropbox.

### How should I prepare my Medications?

All pharmaceutical drugs that are being disposed of need to be in a sealed container such as the original bottle or a zip-lock bag. They may not be disposed of loosely. Liquid pharmaceuticals should remain in the original container. Personal information should be removed or blotted out with a permanent marker.

### What types of Medications and Drugs can I take to a Drop-off Location?

Prescription and over-the-counter solid medications, tablets and capsules, liquid medications, inhalers, creams, ointments, nasal sprays, and pet medicines\*

### What Items are NOT Accepted at Drop-off Locations?

Intravenous solutions, injectables and needles\*

\*Please check with your drop off location for a complete list of items accepted or not accepted.

#### Sources:

Pennsylvania Dept of Drug and Alcohol Programs  
United States Dept of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration  
United States Environmental Protection Agency

### Mercer drop-off Locations

Borough of Grove City  
Police Department  
(724) 458-7925

City of Hermitage  
Police Department  
(724) 981-6780

Greenville-West Salem  
Police Department  
(724) 588-4190

Mercer County  
Sheriff's Office  
(724) 662-3800

The Medicine Shoppe  
Greenville  
(724) 588-3875

The Medicine Shoppe  
Hermitage  
(724) 983-8451

### Lawrence drop-off Locations

Lawrence County  
District Attorney's Office  
(724) 656-1916

Hyde Drug Store  
New Castle  
(724) 652-1451

Neshannock Township  
Police Department  
(724) 658-5631



Recycling/Solid Waste Department