



**Safe Storage. Safe Disposal.  
Safer Communities.**

**Your Guide to Medication  
Storage and Disposal**

# Storing Medications The Right Way

Storing medications properly ensures they remain highly effective and in the right hands.



Keep medications in their original packaging so you know the ingredients, expiration date and dosage information



Store medications out of reach and sight of children. Use a locked box if you can for extra security



If the medication is stored in a bottle, ensure the safety cap is securely locked



Store medications as directed, noting some may need refrigeration or protection from heat



Keep a list of medications in your home so you know if any come up missing

# Proper Medication and Sharps Disposal

Why should you dispose of your unused and expired medications and sharps?



Every 10 minutes, a child visits the emergency department for accidental medication poisoning



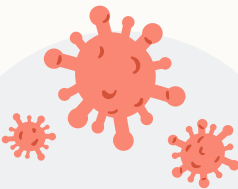
70% of people who misuse opioids got them from a friend or family member



Flushing medications sends harmful chemicals into rivers and streams, risking wildlife and our drinking water

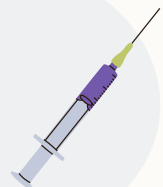


Poison Control receives more than 450,000 calls each year about children less than six years old accidentally ingesting medication



Safely getting rid of sharps prevents the spread of infections

Disposing of sharps helps prevent injury from needle sticks, cuts and punctures



# The How-To on Medication and Sharps Disposal



## Step 1

Find a drug disposal location near you.



## Step 2

Call the location to see if they are currently accepting medications and/or sharps for take-back.



## Step 3

Check to make sure the medication you are trying to dispose of is accepted at the location.



## Step 4

Mark off or remove any personal information from bottles and packaging prior to drop-off.

**For Sharps:** Make sure needles are placed in a sharps-disposal container. For more information on safe sharps disposal, scan the QR code to the right.



**Have a question about your medications?  
Ask your pharmacist!**

**Scan the QR code for more resources:**

