

What is Accepted?

WHAT ITEMS CAN I DROP OFF?

Allowed

- Prescription Medications
- Over-the-counter Medications
- Narcotics and Other Controlled Substances
- Medication Samples
- Pet Medications
- Vitamins & Supplements
- Liquid Medication in Glass or Leak-proof Containers

WHAT ITEMS ARE NOT ACCEPTED?

STOP NOT Allowed

- Needles, Syringes or Other Sharps
- Thermometers
- IV Bags
- Bloody or Infectious Waste
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Business Waste

**No Thermometers
No Sharps**



Program Partners

Blue Earth County:
Environmental Services
Sheriff's Department



Medication Collection Program



*A Secure, Convenient and
Environmentally Sound
Option for the Disposal of
Unused, Unwanted,
& Out-of-Date
Household Medications*

507-304-4242
www.co.blue-earth.mn.us



Printed on recycled paper, 30% post-consumer waste



Frequently Asked Questions



WHY SHOULD I TAKE MY UNUSED MEDICATIONS TO A SAFE DROP BOX?

Unused medications should be disposed of properly to avoid a number of complications. Some possible risks of improper disposal include environmental and water contamination, accidental ingestion by children or pets, and drug diversion. In addition, it is always good practice to dispose of unused or expired medications to avoid confusion and possible drug interactions with current medications.

AREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO FLUSH UNWANTED MEDICATION DOWN THE DRAIN?

Wastewater treatment facilities can't take drugs out of our water. Flushing is the least environmentally safe way to dispose of them! It's believed that drugs in our water have reproductive side effects, cause the feminization of fish, and contribute to antibiotic resistance.



DOES THE MEDICATION NEED TO BE IN ITS ORIGINAL CONTAINER?

No. In fact, please remove as much packaging as possible. Containers with liquid contents should be placed in a plastic bag.

HOW DO I SAFELY STORE MEDICATION UNTIL I CAN BRING IT IN FOR DISPOSAL?

Keep all medication in a safe location inaccessible to youth, guests and pets. Lock up narcotics. Don't share your medication, and don't use any medication other than your own.

CAN I DONATE MY UNUSED MEDICATIONS TO SOMEBODY ELSE THAT CAN USE THEM?

Once a medicine is dispensed to a patient, it is illegal to dispense to others.



CAN I BRING IN MY SYRINGES OR DIABETIC TESTING SUPPLIES?

No. Only medications are accepted in this program. Sharps are accepted at the downtown Hy-Vee Pharmacy.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY MEDICINES AFTER THEY GO IN THE COLLECTION BOX?

They are taken directly to an incinerator, where a deputy watches their destruction.

WHERE DO I DISPOSE OF MY UNUSED MEDICATIONS?

Blue Earth County
Sheriff's Department
Justice Center
401 Carver Road
Mankato, MN 56001
Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Stop accidental poisonings and drug abuse due to improper disposal

