

Prescription Drug Take-back Day

Save the date for National Prescription Drug Take-back Day! Show you care. Don't Share!

Saturday, April 30, 10am – 2pm

The local drop off site is the Burlington Police Department

Go to www.dea.gov to see a list of all drop off locations in Vermont.

Why should you properly dispose of or lock up unused or expired medications?

Show you care. Don't share. – Prescription drugs are often strong medications, which is why they require a prescription in the first place. When they are abused, they can be just as dangerous as drugs that are made illegally. Every medication has some risk for harmful effects, sometimes serious ones. Doctors consider the potential benefits and risks to each patient before prescribing medications and take into account a lot of different factors- personal information, form and use of the drug and the side effects. Proper disposal of medication is important in protecting our children, community and the environment from prescription drug misuse.

Children: Each day in the US, approximately, 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time (from Partnership for a Drug Free America). In 2015, 11% of Vermont teens reported taking a pain reliever or stimulant not prescribed to them. Studies show that the majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friend.

Community: Keep unsafe drug in safe hands. The safety of our community is at risk when medications are improperly thrown away or left in medicine cabinets as they can be attractive to drug dealers and addicts.

Environment: Meds flushed or poured down the drain have found their way into our lakes, rivers and streams. Most water treatment plants or septic tanks are not designed to remove these chemicals. Research done by the UVM Legislative Research service in 2011 found measurable levels of pharmaceutical waste in Lake Champlain.

What can you do?

1. Show you care. DON'T SHARE medication.
2. DISPOSE of your unused medications safely at a local disposal site.
3. SECURE all medications in your home
4. MONITOR all medications in your home to ensure they are used as directed and only by those to whom they are prescribed.
5. TALK to your kids about the dangers of prescription drugs.

Disposal is free and anonymous. For more information about proper disposal and medication safety visit burlingtonpartnership.org
Supported by the Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community and local law enforcement. #endmedicineabuse