

Getting Rid of Unused Medications



Proper and Responsible Disposal

Unused and Expired Meds

**Butler County
Department of
Recycling &
Waste Management**

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Unwanted and Expired Medications in Your Home— The Reality:

Most of us have them—old medications left over from a recent illness or expired—lurking in the back of a medicine cabinet in our home. We have all at one time or another needed a medication and it's tough to figure out what to do with the leftovers. Up until recently, there have been no environmentally-sound or legal solutions for proper disposal.

The Dangers:

Medications pose a serious danger in homes everywhere. There is a possibility of getting them mixed up with other medications, they are often accessible to children and can even pose a danger to our pets. Traces of medications are now even being detected in our drinking water from being flushed down drains or disposed of in landfills. Pharmaceutical products should never be flushed down the toilet or drain, burned in the open or thrown in the trash because:

- these items can contaminate the environment and sicken people and animals if they get into our drinking and ground water.
- pharmaceuticals may kill bacteria or produce drug resistant bacteria in sewage treatment plants and septic systems if flushed down the drain.
- burning can release toxic pollutants into the air.
- if these items are scavenged from your medicine cabinet or trash they can be illegally used or sold.
- if mixed up with other medication and taken by mistake, they can cause serious health problems.

The Solution:

First—if possible, keep any leftover or expired medications **securely locked** up until you can get rid of them so they are not accessible to children or pets, or stolen by someone.

Second –there are currently eight sites at police stations in Butler County where leftover and expired medications can be dropped off **for free!** Just call the location nearest to you, ask about the medication dropoff program and for details on when to bring them. On the back of this page is the current list of places where medications can be dropped off for safe and secure disposal:



**Not in
The Toilet**



**Not in
The Trash**

MEDICATION COLLECTION SITES IN BUTLER COUNTY



BUTLER

PHONE

Butler City Police Department, 200 West New Castle Street.....724.287.7743
Butler Township Police Department, 290 South Duffy Road.....724.285.9600
Butler County Prison, 202 South Washington Street.....724.284.5256

CRANBERRY

Cranberry Township Police Department, 2525 Rochester Road.....724.776.5180

SLIPPERY ROCK

Slippery Rock Borough Police Department, 306 East Water Street...724.794.8528

PENN TOWNSHIP (just south of Butler off Route 8)

Penn Township Police Department, 157 East Airport Road.....724.586.1169

SAXONBURG

Saxonburg Borough Police Department, 420 West Main Street.....724.352.6255

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Township Police Department, 140 Magill Road (Zelie).....724.452.5600



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