



How to Manage Unused Prescription Medications

Unused prescription and over-the-counter medications can be safely processed at the York County Resource Recovery Center (RRC). The RRC is a waste-to-energy facility that burns waste in enclosed, environmentally controlled combustion units. Processing medication in a waste-to-energy facility reduces it to an inert ash and helps produce alternative energy. Medications can be managed in these ways:

► **Place in your regular garbage.** To minimize potential impacts to human health and the environment, take medication out of its original container and mix it with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or kitty litter. The medication will be less appealing to children and pets, and unrecognizable to people who may intentionally go through your trash. Put it in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent the medication from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag. Before disposing of a medicine container, scratch out all identifying information to make it unreadable. This will help to protect your identity and personal health information.

► **Make an appointment to deliver your unused prescription medications to the RRC for FREE.** York County residents (single household) may opt to deliver their unused **prescription** medications directly to the RRC if they do not wish to place them out with the regular garbage. There is NO FEE to dispose of unused prescription medications. Only prescription (no over-the-counter) medications are accepted in this program. Residents must call 717-845-1066 to make an appointment to deliver prescription medications to the RRC. Residents should call in advance (please allow one to two week's notice) to schedule their desired disposal date. The disposal process will take approximately 20 minutes. Residents are required to complete a brief registration form and will be escorted into the RRC by an Authority representative to dispose of the medications. Medications must come from a single household. Medications collected from multiple households cannot be accepted.

► **Residents may anonymously deliver unused prescription and over-the-counter medications for free to secure Medication Return Boxes located in the following Police Department lobbies year 'round during lobby hours as listed, except on holidays:**

Carroll Township Police Department, 555 Chestnut Grove Road, Dillsburg, PA. Open Monday through Friday, 8:30AM to 4:30PM

Fairview Township Police Department, 145 Limekiln Road, Suite 600, New Cumberland, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4:30PM.

Northeastern Regional Police Department, 5570 Broad Road, Mount Wolf, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 4PM.

Northern York County Regional Police Department, 1445 East Canal Road, Dover, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4:30PM.

Penn Township Police Department, 20 Wayne Avenue, Hanover, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4:30PM.

Southern Regional Police Department, 47 E. High Street, New Freedom, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4PM.

Southwestern Regional Police Department, 6115 Thoman Drive, Spring Grove, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4:30PM.

Spring Garden Township Police Department, 340 Tri Hill Road in Spring Garden Township. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 4:30PM.

Springettsbury Township Police Department, 1501 Mount Zion Road, York, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM.

West York Borough Police Department, 1700 West Philadelphia Street, York, PA. Open Monday through Friday, 9AM to 4:30PM

York Area Police Department, 33 Oak Street, York, PA. Open Monday through Friday from 8AM to 5PM.

This partnership program, between the Authority and participating York County police departments provides a secure disposal option for unwanted medications from residential sources at no cost to the public. The secure medication take-back box, purchased by the Authority from MedReturn, works like a mailbox: once medications are deposited, they cannot be retrieved and are contained in a locked compartment accessible only by law enforcement. The Authority has invited all York County police departments to participate and is seeking to establish medication take-back boxes in police departments across the county. The Authority will purchase a box for each interested police department and provide free destruction of medications at the York County Resource Recovery Center, the Authority's waste-to-energy facility located in Manchester Township.

The Authority's waste-to-energy facility is equipped with state of the art combustion technology and air emission controls making it York County's best waste management tool for destruction of unwanted or expired prescription or over-the-counter medication. The facility's operator, Covanta York Renewable Energy, also supports this program.

Residents interested in dropping medication at a take-back box location should remove their personal information from containers before depositing them in boxes. ONLY RESIDENTIAL medications are accepted. Accepted items include: prescriptions, prescription solid or liquid medications, prescription patches, prescription ointments, inhalers, over-the-counter medication, vitamins, samples, medications for pets. **Not accepted:** thermometers, hydrogen peroxide, aerosol cans, personal care products in the form of non-prescription ointments, liquids or lotions, medications from businesses or clinics, needles (sharps), bloody or infectious waste and hazardous waste.

Other Tips:

- ▶ DO NOT FLUSH medications unless instructed to do so.
- ▶ Do not give your medication to anyone else or take a prescription not prescribed for you.
 - ▶ Community drug take-back programs are conducted periodically in York County in conjunction with national take-back programs sponsored by the US Drug Enforcement Administration. Check our web site for event dates and locations, or visit: www.justice.gov/dea/
- ▶ Place sharps (needles, syringes with needles) in a plastic container such as a detergent bottle. Cap or seal the bottle and label it "sharps" and place in the regular garbage, **NOT IN YOUR RECYCLE BIN.**

**For more information contact the York County Solid Waste Authority:
717-845-1066 or visit: www.ycswa.com**

