



Medication Safety

During this difficult time of loss, there are many decisions to be made. One important decision is what to do with leftover or unused medications prescribed for your loved one. Please consider safe prescription drug disposal.

What family members need to know

Prescription drug abuse is on the rise. According to the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), more than 50 percent of people who misuse prescription painkillers got them from a friend or relative for free.

Secure

It is important to keep all medication in a secure location such as:

- An area that is not accessible to children or visitors
- A lock box or locked filing cabinet

Don't Share

It is dangerous to share prescription medication with others.

- The medication was specifically prescribed for an individual.
- You do not know how the drug may affect the physical or Emotional health of others.
- Medication may not be safe after its expiration date.
- It is illegal to share prescription medication, even with a family member.

Dispose

Take unused medications to a drop box site or drug take back event.

****Use the website below to find a drop box location near you.*

- Proper disposal safely removes the medication from your home so that others don't have access to it.
- Measurable amounts of medications, flushed or thrown away, have been found in drinking water and wildlife.

To find a drug take-back box, visit

<https://apps.ddap.pa.gov/gethelpnow/PillDrop.aspx>