

# Got Drugs?

Now is the perfect time to take inventory of your medications.



## Guide to Medication Safety

- Take inventory of the drugs in your home
- Any drugs that you are currently using should be stored in a safe place or in a medication lock box to prevent accidental misuse or ingestion by younger children or your pets.
- Any medications, including pet medications and over-the-counter drugs, that are no longer being used or have expired, can be discarded safely at medication disposal locations throughout Bucks County.
- Safe disposal helps keep pharmaceuticals out of our water supply. See enclosed brochure for medication disposal sites.
- Remember it is important to safeguard your medications everyday.

If someone accidentally takes too much medication, call the **Poison Center Hotline** at 800-222-1222 (open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week) or call 9-1-1.

For safe disposal sites in Bucks County - Call 215-444-2740 or visit the website <http://www.buckscounty.org/government/rowofficers/districtattorney/SAFE Medication Disposal>

Tips to Prevent Poisoning from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
<http://www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Poisoning/preventiontips.htm> - drugs

## **REMEMBER THESE MEDICATION SAFETY TIPS:**

**\*SECURE Medications      \*SAFE DISPOSAL      \*NO SHARING**

**Secure:** It is important to keep all medication in a secure location:

- An area that is not accessible to children or visitors; out of your bathroom medicine cabinet and kitchen cupboard (these are areas anyone entering your home has access to)
- A lock box or locked filing cabinet
- Know where your valuables and medications are and that they are secure while people are in your home

**Safe Disposal:** It is no longer acceptable to flush or throw away medication.

- Go through your medications (including pet medications); sort out those that are expired or no longer needed and take them your local disposal site\*\*\* Find your local disposal days or drop off sites using

<http://www.buckscounty.org/government/rowofficers/districtattorney/SAFEmedicationDisposal>

- Studies show that measurable amounts of medications have been found in drinking water and wildlife due to flushing or throwing them away
- Medication strength changes over time and is not typically safe after one year
- Proper disposal removes medications from your home in a safe way so others do not have access

**No Sharing:** Do not share your prescription medications with others, even with a family member.

- The medication was prescribed specifically for you and your body
- You do not know how the medication may affect others physically or emotionally
- It is a criminal offense to share prescriptions

Tips to safeguard your home at

<http://medicineabuseproject.org/resources/protect-your-kids-3-steps-to-safeguard-your-home>



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