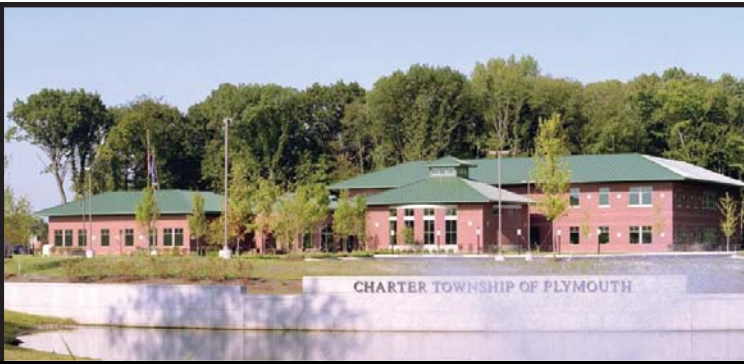


CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH FACT SHEET MEDICATION & SYRINGE DISPOSAL



Talkin' Trash Series



At some point in our lives most of us experience an illness or have a fall and require a prescription or over the counter medication to alleviate the symptoms or pain. In some cases, these products are not completely used up, or in the case of syringes, they leave behind a sharp needle. If not disposed of properly these products can cause accidental poisonings of young children or pets, contaminate our drinking water or can cause injury to our sanitation workers.

By following the simple steps outlined on the back of this fact sheet you can help to keep our community safe, clean and healthy for everyone.

TYPES OF MEDICATIONS

The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has specific rules that dictate how certain medicines/drugs can be handled for disposal. Basically, there are two (2) types of drugs: controlled and non-controlled. Below are common examples for each type of drug. The available disposal method will vary based on the classification of the medication.

Controlled Drugs

Drugs in this category encompass most prescription medications and include many of the following:

- Pain Killers (i.e. vicodin, morphine, codeine, etc.)
- Anti-Depressants
- Anabolic Steroids
- Muscle Relaxers (i.e. Valium, Zanax)
- Chemotherapy Drugs

Non-Controlled Drugs-Over the Counter

Drugs in this category include all **over the counter** drugs and some prescription medications:

- Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Naproxen
- Medicated Ointments/Lotions
- Antibiotics, Cold and Flu Medications
- Vitamins
- Medications for Pets
- Inhalers
- Insulin

A comprehensive list of controlled drugs can be found on the DEA's website:

<http://www.justice.gov/dea/pubs/scheduling.html>

SYRINGE PREPARATION FOR DISPOSAL

There are several options available for disposal of syringes that are outlined on the back of this fact sheet, but steps should be taken prior to needles/needle tips being disposed of. Often coined as "Sharps" used needles from syringes that are not prepared properly can cause injury to your sanitation workers. Used syringes need to be placed inside a hard side container such as the plastic containers that liquid laundry detergent comes in or in a container designed especially for sharps. Sharps containers can be purchased at your local pharmacy.



FACT SHEET

MEDICATION & SYRINGE DISPOSAL



Talkin' Trash Series



MAKE SURE YOU REMOVE OR BLACK OUT ALL PERSONAL INFORMATION ON PRESCRIPTION BOTTLES BEFORE YOU DISPOSE OF THEM!

Follow these steps when you need to dispose of unwanted medications:

1. Determine if you have a controlled or non-controlled medication. You can visit the DEA website listed on the front of this fact sheet or contact your pharmacy.
2. Contact your Doctor's office and/or pharmacy to see if they offer a take-back program for your medication.
3. Use Table I below to identify your options based on the type of medication you have.

Follow these steps when you need to dispose of used syringes/needles:

1. Contact your Doctor's Office and/or pharmacy to see if they offer a take-back program for your medication.
2. Use Table I below to identify your options based on the type of medication you have.

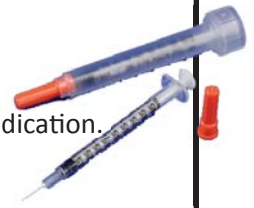


TABLE I - DISPOSAL OPTIONS

OPTION <i>(see further descriptions below)</i>	NON-CONTROLLED DRUG	CONTROLLED DRUG	MEDICAL SHARPS/ SYRINGES/NEEDLES
CONTACT DOCTOR and/or PHARMACY	✓	✓	✓
BRING TO A DEA SPONSORED EVENT		✓	
BRING TO HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION	✓		✓
WRAP & TRASH	✓	✓	
SOAK & THROW	✓	✓	
PLACE IN HARD SIDE CONTAINER AND THROW IN TRASH			✓

Bring to a US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Sponsored Event

Due to the nature of the controlled medications, the laws governing controlled drugs are very strict. At this time the only persons with the authority to accept these medications from you is law enforcement. The United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) coordinates semi-annual collection events with local police departments. Visit the DEA's website for information on upcoming events at <http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/>.

NOTE: The DEA is currently working on new rules that may change the ability of pharmacies and long-term care facilities to receive back unused controlled medications in 2013-ask your pharmacist.

Bring to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Plymouth Township offers one (1) annual event in the spring of each year and Wayne County offers several events during the year. Contact the Solid Waste Department for upcoming dates and locations.

Wrap & Trash

1. Remove or black out your personal information.
2. Wrap the bottle completely with duct tape.
3. Place the bottle in several layers of plastic grocery bags.
4. Place in your regular trash.

Soak & Throw

1. Take the drugs out of the original containers and place inside a re-sealable plastic bag.
2. Add coffee grounds, wet kitty litter, etc.
3. Place in your regular trash.



Did you know that landfills are designed to keep liquids and other wastes from entering nearby streams, lakes and aquifers? The bottom layer of all landfills consist of a thick, protective liner and a water collection system that collects and treats the contaminated water.

