

Help us keep these potentially dangerous drugs off the streets and out of our waterways.

Bring your unused prescription pills and powders – no liquids, Epipens or syringes please - to the Sandpoint Police Department.

No questions asked.



Sandpoint Police
1123 Lake Street
Sandpoint, ID 83864
(208) 265-1482
[www.cityofsandpoint.com/
Police/PoliceHome.htm](http://www.cityofsandpoint.com/Police/PoliceHome.htm)

"The Sandpoint Police Department is proud to be a partner in helping to properly dispose of expired and unneeded prescription pills and powders, so that these drugs don't end up in the wrong hands and threaten the health and safety of our citizens."
– Sandpoint Police Chief R. Mark Lockwood



Bonner General Hospital
529 North Third Avenue
Sandpoint, ID 83864
(208) 263-1441
www.bonnergen.org

"The hospital is committed to quality, compassionate care. This program is a perfect partnership between the quality of our community's health and the health of our environment. We are pleased to be an integral part of it."
– Sheryl Rickard, CEO, Bonner General Hospital



Idaho Conservation League
P.O. Box 2308
Sandpoint, ID 83864
(208) 265-9565
www.idahoconservation.org

"Pharmaceuticals are a growing threat to water quality in North Idaho and across the nation. We need to protect our lakes and rivers for future generations, and for the fish and wildlife that also call Bonner County home."
– Susan Drumheller, Idaho Conservation League

Drug Drop-off Program

Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet



Dispose of medications safely:
Take your unused or expired prescription pills (no liquids, Epipens or syringes) to the Sandpoint Police Department

Open 9 am to 4 pm
Monday - Friday
1123 Lake St., Sandpoint

The Sandpoint Police Department, Bonner General Hospital Foundation and Idaho Conservation League have teamed up to provide this drug drop-off program to protect our loved ones and neighbors, as well as our water and aquatic life.

Protect our Water and our Families

Additional Resources

More information about pharmaceuticals and their proper disposal can be found at:

Environmental Protection Agency:
www.epa.gov/ppcp/

The Drug Take Back Network:
www.takebacknetwork.com

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality:
[www.deq.idaho.gov/water/prog_issues/
surface_water/pharmaceuticals](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/prog_issues/surface_water/pharmaceuticals)

Unused Medications: The problem

Unused medications are a risk to our youth – one in five teens nationwide has reported intentionally misusing someone else's prescription drugs to get high. Most abusers get their illegal pharmaceuticals by raiding the medicine cabinet of friends or relatives. Prescription drug abuse is at epidemic levels in our country, in part because the drugs are easy to find.

According to the Partnership for a Drug Free America, approximately six out of 10 teens agree that prescription drugs are easy to get from parents' medicine cabinets... And about four out of 10 teens think that prescription drugs are safer to use than illegal drugs. If you have unused or out of date prescription medications sitting in your medicine cabinet, on a windowsill or in a drawer; there is a solution and method for their proper and safe disposal.

Whatever you do, don't flush those drugs down the toilet!

Improperly disposed of pharmaceuticals get into our water supply and threaten the health of fish and other living things downstream. Studies show that pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter drugs and some personal care products can cause ecological harm in our waterways. Sewage treatment plants are not designed to remove pharmaceuticals or personal care products from wastewater.

How to Dispose of Unused Medications

Don't flush prescription pills or liquid medications down the toilet or garbage disposal.

If you have unused or expired prescription pills or powders, you can drop them off – no questions asked – at the Sandpoint Police Department. Only law enforcement agencies can accept prescription drugs from the public for disposal.

The Sandpoint Police Department offers this service for the safety and health of our community. The program is anonymous.

Here's how it works

Remove personal information from prescription bottles using a permanent marker;

Bring your prescription pills to the Sandpoint Police Department, 1123 Lake Street, Sandpoint, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday – Friday and leave them with the officer on duty.

The police department cannot accept liquid medications. If you have liquid medications:

- Remove all personal information from the prescription bottles using a permanent marker;
- Mix unused liquid drugs with coffee grounds, kitty litter or another undesirable substance, and;
- Dispose of this mixture in a sealed container – such as a disposable container with a lid or a sealable bag - in your household trash.
- DO NOT dispose of liquid medications down the toilet or sink.

What Else Can I Do?

- Dispose of pharmaceuticals during community Drug Take Back events.
- Purchase drugs in small amounts, limiting your expired medications.
- Purchase medications or products with low environmental impact.
- Do not give medications to friends. Drugs that work for you may be dangerous for someone else.
- Encourage your health provider to take back unused or expired medications.
- Take good care of yourself, and practice preventive medicine, to reduce your reliance on medications.
- And please; do NOT dispose of your unused medications in the toilet.

“Over 80% of waterways tested in the U.S. show traces of common medications such as acetaminophen, hormones, blood pressure medicine, codeine, and antibiotics.”

–IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

“Studies have linked hormone exposure to reproductive defects in fish, and environmental exposure to antibiotics to the development of drug-resistant germs.”

– IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY