

Looking Ahead

We need a sustainable source of funding to ensure that everyone in our community and state has on-going access to secure and effective medicine disposal locations. Voluntary programs at our police stations and some pharmacies demonstrate the strong community demand for proper drug disposal, but long-term funding is needed.

In British Columbia, Canada, pharmaceutical manufacturers fund and provide a medicine return program. Legislation is proposed in Washington State for a similar funding system, which is called product stewardship.

Visit www.medicinereturn.com or contact your state legislator for more information.

Snohomish County Partnership for Secure Medicine Disposal

Protecting our community from harm by collecting unwanted prescription medicines from residents



Funding for this project is provided in part by the Washington State Dept. of Ecology through the Coordinated Prevention Grant Program.

November 2009

Note: All photos feature models and staged events.

✓ Get Unwanted Meds OUT . . .

of your homes, of your water, of the reach of a child



Partner with law enforcement in Snohomish County to securely dispose of your unwanted prescription medicines.

Keeping unused, unwanted and expired prescription drugs in your home poses a risk to you, your family and your community. Disposed of improperly, these drugs can still be obtained for illegal use and some will contaminate our waters. To provide you with an easy, secure and responsible way to properly and securely dispose of these drugs, law enforcement agencies and other partners have established free prescription drug drop-off locations throughout Snohomish County.

Why?

Prescription drug abuse is a serious and growing problem in our communities.

Abuse of medicines—especially opiate pain relievers like OxyContin, codeine, and Vicodin—is increasing rapidly.

The consequences are serious.

Drug overdoses have surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of accidental deaths in Washington. The majority of overdoses involve prescription opiates. Youth admissions to state funded treatment for prescription opiates are now 19 times higher than in 2001.

Our kids and teens are at risk.

Misused prescription drugs are the illicit drugs of choice among 12- and 13-year olds. For the first time among teens, there are as many new abusers of prescription drugs as marijuana abusers.

Our medicine cabinets are taking the place of drug dealers.

Three in five teens say prescription pain relievers are easy to get from parents' medicine cabinets. Over half of prescription drug abusers get the medicines from a friend or relative. More than half of teens say pain relievers are "available everywhere."



What and where?



All prescription drugs, including narcotic pain killers and prescribed "controlled substances"

Take to law enforcement locations listed inside and at www.snoco.org (search "pharmaceuticals"). There are currently 28 sites in Snohomish County.



All medications, EXCEPT narcotic pain killers and prescribed "controlled substances"

Take to pharmacy-based drop-off locations listed inside and at www.medicinereturn.com. There are currently 5 sites in Snohomish County.

Program information line: 425-388-3199

How the program works

For free disposal of your unwanted medications, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Gather all unwanted meds from wherever you have them stored (drawers, medicine cabinet, etc.).
- 2 Check the list in this brochure to see which items are accepted. **Remember that narcotics and prescribed controlled substances are accepted only at law enforcement locations.**
- 3 Bring accepted items to the most convenient location (see list of drop-off locations). **Leave items in their original containers.**

At law enforcement sites and Bartell Drugs locations:
 - Your items will be quickly screened to make sure they don't include items that cannot be accepted, such as mercury thermometers and needles.
 - You will have an opportunity to mark out any personal information. Do NOT mark out the name of the medication. No questions will be asked, though your zip code may be recorded for research purposes.
- 4 Place the items into the secure double-locked collection box.



✓ Items Accepted:

- Narcotics (OxyContin, Vicodin, etc.) Accepted **ONLY** at law enforcement sites
- Prescribed medications
- Over-the-counter medications
- Medication samples
- Medications for pets
- Medicated ointments/lotions (prescription & over-the-counter)
- Vitamins
- Inhalers
- EpiPens (unopened)

⊘ Items Not Accepted:

- Needles/syringes
- Thermometers
- IV bags or bloody/infectious waste
- Personal care products
- Hydrogen peroxide/other chemicals
- Aerosol cans
- EpiPens (used)
- Mercury products (Mercurochrome, thimerosal, etc.)
- Iodine solutions (Betadine, etc.)
- Radioactives
- Business waste
- Empty containers

For disposal of used syringes, needles and lancets, thermometers containing mercury, aerosol cans and other chemicals, visit www.snoco.org (search "solid waste"). For guidance about disposal of business pharmaceutical waste, visit www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/pharmaceuticals/.

Drop-Off Locations Call 425-388-3199 for details and hours



Law Enforcement Drop-Off Locations

Accepts Narcotics

- Arlington Police**
110 E Third Street
- Bothell Police**
18410-101st Avenue NE
- Brier Police**
2901-228th Street SW
- Darrington Police**
1115 Seeman Street
- Edmonds Police**
250 Fifth Avenue N
- Everett Police – North Precinct**
3002 Wetmore Avenue
- Everett Police – South Precinct**
1121 SE Everett Mall Way
- Gold Bar Police**
107-5th Street
- Granite Falls Police**
205 S Granite Avenue
- Lake Stevens Police**
2211 Grade Road
- Lynnwood Police**
19321-44th Avenue W
- Marysville Police**
1635 Grove Street
- Mill Creek Police**
15728 Main Street
- Monroe Police**
818 W Main Street
- Mountlake Terrace Police**
5906-232nd Street SW
- Mukilteo Police**
10500-47th Place W
- NCIS – Naval Station Everett**
2000 W Marine View Drive
Building 2000, Room 234

- Sauk-Suiattle Tribal Police**
5318 Chief Brown Lane, Darrington
- Snohomish Police**
230 Maple Avenue
- Snohomish County Sheriff**
4th Floor Courthouse
3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett
- Snohomish County Sheriff – North Precinct**
15100-40th Avenue NE, Marysville
- Snohomish County Sheriff – South Precinct**
15928 Mill Creek Boulevard, Mill Creek
- Snohomish County Sheriff – Jail**
3025 Oakes Avenue, Everett
- Stanwood Police**
8727-271st St NW
- Stillaguamish Tribal Police**
22714-6th Avenue NE, Arlington
- Sultan Police**
515 Main Street
- Tulalip Tribal Police**
7720 Waterworks Road, Tulalip
- Washington State Patrol**
2700-116th Street NE, Marysville



Pharmacy-Based Drop-Off Locations



- Edmonds Bartell Drugs**
23028-100th Avenue W
- Everett Group Health Cooperative**
2930 Maple Street
- Lake Stevens Bartell Drugs**
621 SR 9 NE
- Lynnwood Bartell Drugs**
17633 Highway 99
- Lynnwood Group Health Cooperative**
20200-54th Avenue W