

Safely Dispose of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Sharps in Oklahoma



Safe Disposal Prevents Problems at the Source

Leftover pharmaceuticals and used medical sharps are a serious concern in Oklahoma. Drug overdose deaths, especially those related to opioids, are caused partly by improperly stored drugs and drugs placed in the trash. And when medicines are poured down the drain or flushed, they contaminate our drinking water sources. Improperly disposed medical sharps (including syringes, pen needles, and lancets) create a health risk for sanitation and wastewater treatment workers and for the public.

What is the Oklahoma Pharmaceuticals and Medical Sharps Safe Disposal Workgroup?

We are a coalition of professionals working on a statewide solution for the safe disposal of medical sharps and leftover pharmaceuticals for Oklahoma residents. The Workgroup is funded by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality with facilitation and technical support from the Product Stewardship Institute. We meet periodically to share information and to develop solutions. Our work includes:

- Engaging a range of stakeholders, including health professionals, state and local government officials, tribal representatives, water quality professionals, waste industry professionals, and many others.
- Documenting existing safe disposal options and identifying gaps.
- Creating a clear and consistent safe disposal message for all Oklahomans.



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More Info:
<https://bit.ly/2WecHLS>

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