

For Immediate Release

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Subject:

Manitowoc County Drug Disposal Program Update

The Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office has installed a drug drop box in the lobby located at 1025 South 9th Street. This new drug drop box was installed to help make drug disposal more convenient for residents and more efficient for law enforcement. The new drop box is available Monday through Friday between 8am and 4:30pm. When using this drop box or any other drop box or disposal event in Manitowoc County, make sure to follow the directions listed below.

There are two reasons for the collection and proper disposal of medications. First, removing these drugs from your house can reduce the likelihood of family or guests using the prescriptions in a way that leads to addiction, continued use of illicit drugs, and accidental poisoning or overdoses. Second, these drugs should not be placed in the trash or flushed down the toilet since they cannot be removed by landfills, sewage treatment plants, or septic systems and are released into our water supplies.

Since 2006, Manitowoc County has offered annual programs for medication disposal. What started out as a one-day collection event in 2006 has now grown into 3 permanent drug drop boxes and 3 annual take back events. Thanks to the efforts of the program supporters and participating residents, approximately 12,509 pounds of pills, patches, powders, and liquids have been collected since it started (not including the packaging).



This program is supported through the Manitowoc County Drug Disposal Collaborative which includes: Manitowoc County Sheriff's Office - Metro Drug Unit, Manitowoc County Public Works Department - Recycling Center, Manitowoc County Aging and Disability Resource Center, Manitowoc County Public Health Department, Northeastern Wisconsin Area Health Education Center, Manitowoc City Police Department, Two Rivers Police Department, and Kiel Police Department.

For questions or more info call 683-4333 or visit the Drug Disposal section at www.manitowocrecycles.org.

DIRECTIONS

Participants should remove pills from the original container and put them in a "ziplock" style bag that is quart size or smaller. Pills can be mixed in one bag. Bring the bag to a law enforcement drug drop box or a law enforcement sponsored drug disposal event.

Recycle or dispose of the empty pill bottles and boxes at home. Liquids, creams, and powders can stay in their original container with the caps tightened.

DROP:

- Prescription medications
- Over the counter drugs
- Veterinary medications
- Controlled substances
- Supplements

DO NOT DROP:

- Sharps, needles, syringes, or lancets
- Chemical waste or mercury products
- Electronic glucose monitors
- Non-medical inhalers
- Pill bottles or boxes
- Personal care products like shampoo or cosmetics



GUIDELINES:

- Accepted drugs include prescriptions, over the counter, pet medications, controlled substances, and supplements.
- Place pills in a “ziplock” style bag that is quart size or less. Liquids, creams, powders, and medical inhalers can stay in their original container with the caps tightened.
- Pill bottles and boxes are NOT accepted. Cross out your personal information and recycle or dispose of them at home.
- Needles, sharps, lancets, mercury devices, chemical waste, electronic glucose monitors, non-medical inhalers, and personal care products like shampoo and cosmetics will NOT be accepted.
- Do NOT bring medications to drug disposal events before or after the listed times.
- Households only. Businesses should call 920-683-4333 for disposal information.
- Practice safe storage by keeping your medications in a secured location.
- Practice reduction by consulting with your physician about your medication needs.
- Never share your prescriptions with another person.

PERMANENT DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

- Manitowoc County Sheriff’s Office: 1025 South 9th St, 8am-4:30pm M-F
- Manitowoc City Police Dept: 910 Jay St, Manitowoc, 7:30am-4:30pm M-F
- Two Rivers Police Dept: 1717 East Park St, Two Rivers, 8am-4:30pm M-F

DRUG DISPOSAL EVENTS:

- Saturday, April 29th: 10am-2pm, Earth Day/Healthy Kids Day, YMCA
205 Maritime Dr Manitowoc
- Thursday, Sept 14th: 2-5pm, Kiel Community Center, 510 3rd Street, Kiel
- Saturday, October 21st: 10am-3pm, Crime Prevention Day, Expo– Merchants
Building, 4921 Expo Drive, Manitowoc