

Why is Medicine Disposal a Concern?

The Three Main Hazards Are:

1. Possible poisoning from accidental ingestion, particularly among young children and pets, if medicines are thrown in the trash.
2. Illegal use or theft, including identity theft from discarded containers providing personal patient information.
3. Contamination of water resources, which can result in reproductive and developmental problems in fish and other aquatic wildlife if medicines are flushed or placed in the trash.



**Thank you for making
Grundy County a safe
place to live!**

Drop Off Sites

Sharps & Medication

Grundy County Coroner's Office
1320 Union Street
Morris, IL 60450

Coal City Police Department
5455 S. Broadway Street
Coal City, IL 60416

Medication Only

Channahon Police Department
24555 S. Navajo Drive
Channahon, IL 60410

Minooka Police Department
121 E. McEvilly Road
Minooka, IL 60447

Grundy County Sheriff's Office
111 E. Illinois Avenue
Morris, IL 60450

Morris Police Department
200 E. Chapin Street
Morris, IL 60450

Seneca Police Department
340 N. Cash St.
Seneca, IL 61360

Sharps Only

Coal City Public Library
85 N. Garfield Street
Coal City, IL 60416



Grundy County
Coroner

Medication And Sharps Take-Back



**John W. Callahan
Grundy County Coroner
1320 Union Street
Morris, IL 60450
Phone: 815-942-3792**

How Do Pharmaceuticals Enter the Environment?



Pharmaceuticals have been found primarily in discharge from wastewater treatment plants and surface waters. Pharmaceuticals are also released into waterways via runoff from commercial animal feeding operations and aquaculture and from fields where manure and bio solids have been applied.

Expired or unwanted medicines, if flushed down the toilet or drain, are a source of pollution in wastewater. Because sewage treatment plants are not designed to deal with drugs, these chemicals can be released into streams, lakes and groundwater and affect fish and other aquatic wildlife.

You might imagine that any substance safe enough for humans and pets to ingest as medication can't cause environmental harm. However, that may not be the case. If our medicines are reaching streams, rivers and lakes, organisms living in these habitats may be continuously exposed to these drugs. Some aquatic organisms living in waters downstream from wastewater treatment plants are showing signs of developmental and reproductive problems. Researchers are working to determine whether pharmaceuticals are causing these effects.

Disposal Dos and Donts

Do:

1. Return unwanted/expired medicines to pharmacies and other locations participating in take-back programs
2. Bring only residentially generated medication items.
3. Please follow directions at the drop-off site. Only give medications to the pharmacy or drop-off site personnel.
4. Bring Sharps in Appropriate Containers

Do Not:

1. Flush down the sink drain or toilet.
2. Place in the trash.
3. Give or sell to others



ITEMS ACCEPTED

Expired or Unwanted:

- Prescription Medications
- Over-the-Counter Medications
- Medicated Ointments
- Medicated Shampoos
- Liquids Containing Medications
- Prescription Inhalers
- Over-the-Counter Inhalers
- Sharps in Proper Containers

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- Radioactive Materials
- Other Household Wastes