

Thank You!

The Portage County Solid Waste Department would like to thank the Stevens Point and Plover Police Departments for partnering with us to help make this program possible. The Portage County community will be safer due to the timely, safe and proper disposal of unwanted and old medicines.

A special thank you is extended to the pharmacists from Walgreens, Shopko and Aurora Pharmacies for donating their time and their expertise to help ensure the success of this program.



**Pharmaceutical
Drop-Off Boxes**

A program of the
Portage County
Solid Waste Department

**Portage County
Solid Waste
Department**

Phone: 715-345-5969
Fax: 715-345-5971
www.co.portage.wi.us

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Safely dispose of old medicine when YOU want to!



The Portage County Solid Waste Department and the Stevens Point and Plover Police Departments are pleased to announce that county residents will no longer have to wait for special collection events to safely dispose of old and unused pharmaceuticals. Residents now have access to **two** permanent drop-off sites for unwanted medicine!

Having a variety of ways to safely dispose of old and unused medications helps both the community and the environment. Excess medication could increase the risk of theft of these items and of drug abuse. In addition, it is vitally important to dispose of medications in a safe manner, because flushing them down the drain or putting them in the trash contaminates ground and surface waters.

What Is And Is NOT Accepted

Prescription and over-the-counter medicines **are** allowed.



Please **DO NOT** bring in nebulizers (inhalers), empty medicine containers, radioactive medicines, syringes or needles. To learn about the **proper**, safe disposal of syringes and needles, call 345-5972, the Portage County Recycling Information Line, and ask about the Sharps Program.

Locations and Procedures

Stevens Point's purple box for controlled, convenient access will be located outside of the Stevens Point Police Department Dispatch Center, in the basement of the City building at 1515 Strongs Ave.

The drop-off location has 24-hour, 7-day-a-week availability. Residents using the drop box enter the monitored and secure area through the Stevens Point Police Department's after-hours entryway.

Plover's blue box is mounted on the lobby wall, and is available Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enter through the Plover Police Department's Post Road entrance at 2420 Post Road.

Leave the medicine in its original container. Please keep the name of the medication on the container for easier identification. But remove your name, address and phone number.

Local pharmacists work with the police and Solid Waste Department to identify the various medicines and ensure proper disposal.

Please note that controlled medications from the Stevens Point and Plover Police Departments are retained in police custody until destroyed.

History

In recent years, the Solid Waste Department, local pharmacists and local organizations collaborated to hold regular collection events, in an effort to help residents get rid of these potentially harmful substances.

County residents have shown strong interest in these collection events, bringing in hundreds of pounds of a wide variety of medications. Because of this high level of participation, local officials investigated ways to have a permanent drop-off site so residents would not have to wait months to dispose of their pharmaceuticals.

The Portage County Coalition for Alcohol/Drug Abuse Prevention will likely continue to hold collection events, but the drop-off boxes provide an additional and permanent option for those who wish to use them.

For more information

For information and brochures about this and the other waste solution programs offered by the Portage County Solid Waste Department log on to www.co.portage.wi.us/solidwaste or call 345-5969 or 345-5972.

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