Safe Medication Disposal

Prescription medication plays an important role in treating certain conditions. Unused or expired medications should be properly disposed of to avoid harm. For example, pain medication (opioids) can be very effective for treating pain, but prolonged use or misuse can lead to addiction, accidental poisoning or overdose.

80%+
Of older adults (ages 57 to 85 years) use at least one prescription medication daily[1]

16 million
Americans aged 12 or older misuse prescriptions in a year[1]

62%
Of teens report misusing prescription medications because they can access them from their parent's medicine cabinets[1]

Proper disposal of unused medications saves lives.

O'BRIEN COUNTY

Safe Home Disposal

Medication disposal packets are available at your local pharmacy to support safe disposal of unused medications at home. Scan the QR code for an instructional video.

Deterra ® Drug Deactivation System

1) Pour medication in Deterra ® pouch and fill 1/2 with water.
2) Wait 30 seconds, seal, shake and dispose in trash.

https://deterrasystem.com/resources/videos/ (Link)

Drop-Off Locations

You can safely dispose of unused or expired medications locally at one of the permanent drug disposal drop-off locations below.

+ **Hartley Hometown Pharmacy**
  130 3rd St NE
  Hartley, IA 51346
  712-928-7070

+ **Hy-Vee Pharmacy #1573**
  1989 Park St
  Sheldon, IA 51201
  712-324-0020

+ **Lewis Family Drug #52**
  610 Park St
  Sheldon, IA 51201
  712-324-4331

+ **Sanford Sheldon Medical Center**
  118 N 7th Ave
  Sheldon, IA 51201
  712-324-5041

+ **Thrifty White Pharmacy #077**
  127 N Main St
  Paullina, IA 51046
  712-949-3490

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Source: "Prescription Drug Abuse Statistics." National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, Jan 1, 2025. https://drugabusestatistics.org/prescription-drug-abuse-statistics/.