

Prescription Medication Disposal Program

Members of the public can dispose of their unwanted and expired prescription and household medications conveniently and safely at the Palm Desert Sheriff's Station, located at 73705 Gerald Ford Drive.

Sponsored by the City of Palm Desert, the Police Department's Prescription Medication Disposal Program is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. excluding holidays when the station is closed to the public (dates and times subject to change).

The disposal program does not accept illicit drugs or medical waste, including syringes, biological samples, vials, tubes, or transdermal patches.

This program is designed to give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Medicines in home cabinets are highly susceptible to misuse and abuse. Prescription drug abuse in the United States is a significant problem as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these medications.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from home medicine cabinets. Traditional methods for disposing of unused medicines – flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash – have been shown to pose environmental and health hazards.

For more information, please call the Palm Desert Police Department at 760-836-1600.

Prescription medications can also be disposed of at Walgreens Pharmacy located at 44840 Monterey Avenue in Palm Desert. For more information, please call Walgreens at 760-674-0716.