

## Four Steps to Safety

Please use these practical guidelines when disposing of prescription and over-the-counter medicines:

1. Keep the medicines in the original container.
2. Mark out your name and address.
3. Secure the container.
4. Deposit the medicines in the large green metal box at the Bath Township Administration Building parking lot.



**DON'T FLUSH  
THAT LEFTOVER  
MEDICINE!**



### BATH TOWNSHIP

3864 W. Bath Rd.  
Akron, Ohio 44333

Phone: 330-666-4007

[www.bathtownship.org](http://www.bathtownship.org)

## BATH TOWNSHIP

Summit County, Ohio

## Going Green & Clean



### DRUG DISPOSAL PROJECT

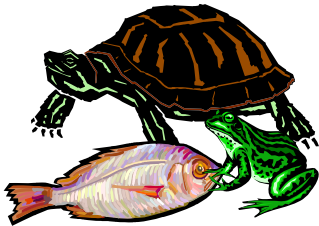
# GOING GREEN & CLEAN

## What is the Issue?

Safe methods of disposal are needed for expired or unwanted medicines. Improper disposal of medicines presents both a public safety and environmental hazard. Millions of health care dollars are wasted annually.

## Environment Concerns

Many medicines are getting past our sewage treatment plants and septic tanks. They find their way to our drinking water.



Expired or unwanted medicines flushed down the toilet are reaching streams and

lakes. Organisms living in these waters are exposed to the drugs.

The organisms are showing signs of developmental and reproductive problems.

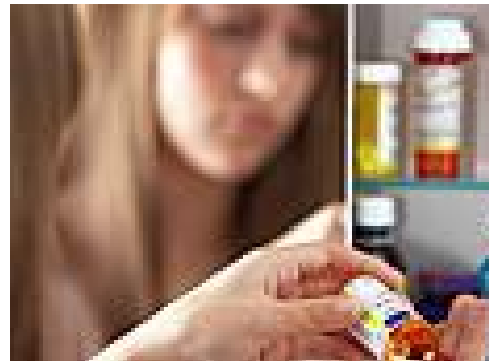
## Prescription Abuse

Prescription drug abuse by teens is a serious problem in Ohio. An Ohio Department of Health report indicates that 26.5% of high school students have abused prescription drugs.

Many teens think these drugs are safe because they have legitimate uses, but taking them without a prescription to get high or “self-medicate” can be as dangerous and addictive—as using illegal street drugs.

Painkillers are the most common pharmaceutical abused by teens. Stimulant abuse is more common among older teens and college students than younger teens.

Girls are more likely to be current (past month) abusers of prescription medications than boys (4.3% vs. 3.6%).



## Questions?

### **Why not flush meds down the toilet?**

They can end up in our water sources.

### **How do meds in the water affect me?**

Meds in the water affect fish and amphibians. Trace amounts of meds have been found in our drinking water.

### **Is it ok for me to throw meds into my trash?**

Meds in the trash are an easy target for children and pets. These meds will end up in the landfills, where it may leach indirectly into the water.

### **Where do I take my unwanted meds?**

Take them to the green disposal box at 3864 W. Bath Rd—Bath Center.

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