

# PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION



## LEARN THE FACTS

- Prescription pain medication can be helpful in managing pain and making it possible for an individual to improve his or her ability to function.
- If used incorrectly, prescription pain medications can be dangerous—even fatal.

## SAFE STORAGE

- Store your prescription pain medications out of reach of kids, family, and guests.
- Know where your prescription pain medications are at all times.
- Keep prescription pain medication in the original bottle with the label attached, and with the child-resistant cap secured.
- Keep track of how many prescription pain pills are in your bottle so you are immediately aware if any are missing.
- Dispose of all unused and expired medications properly.

## TIPS FOR SAFE USE

- Never take prescription pain medication that is not prescribed to you. Everyone responds differently to pain medication, and what is safe for one person may not be safe for another.
- Never take your prescription pain medication more often or in higher doses. Your body must build up a tolerance to the effects before the dose can be increased.
- Never drink alcoholic beverages while taking prescription pain medications. Alcohol increases the toxicity of pain medication.
- Never share your prescription pain medications. Besides being dangerous, it is a felony.
- Taking prescription pain medications with other depressants, such as sleep aids, anti-anxiety medications, or cold medicine, can be dangerous.
- Properly dispose of all unused and expired prescription pain medications.

## SAFE DISPOSAL

- Do not flush! Do not pour! In the past, it was recommended to flush medications down the toilet or sink. We now know that drugs disposed of in this manner can enter the environment because sewage treatment plants and septic tanks are not designed to filter them.
- Please take your medications to a permanent collection site or a special community take-back event. You may also take your unused medications to one of the permanent sites located in the lobby of local law enforcement agencies.
- Prescriptions may be dropped off anonymously since identification is not required.
- Bins are emptied by law enforcement and ultimately, are incinerated.
- The Cheyenne Police Department lobby has a drop-off location:

CHEYENNE PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER  
415 West 18th Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82001

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**Emergency/Crime in Progress**  
Dial 9-1-1

**Report a Crime or Suspicious Activity**  
Dispatch Center: (307) 637-6525

**24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line**  
(307) 638-8477

**General Department Requests**  
(307) 637-6500