

## SAFE DISPOSAL OF MEDICATIONS:

### WHAT is “Take it To The Box”?

It is a program that promotes the safe use, safe storage and safe disposal of unneeded over-the-counter medications, prescriptions and narcotic drugs **FREE** of charge for community members.

The Crow Wing County community is serious about preventing medication misuse/abuse and serious about healthy, environmentally safe disposal of unneeded medications. Safe medication disposal helps reduce such risks.

### WHY is it important?

- There is a growing concern regarding the abuse by youth and others of medications not prescribed to them. Safe disposal makes unneeded medicine less available.
- Evidence is increasing of the damage to the environment due to unsafe disposal of medications. It is no longer safe to dispose by flushing down sinks, toilets and/or drains. Proper disposal helps protect our soil and water.

### WHAT kind of medicine can go in The Box?

Any unneeded over-the-counter medications, prescription or narcotic drugs can be placed in The Box. Inhaler medications in dispensers may be dropped off in The Box.



### WHAT do I do?

- Check medications regularly for expiration dates and clean out medicine cabinets at least annually.
- Leave medication in the original container.
- Remove your name and other identifying information. Black out with markers or peel information off.
- Leave the name of the medication and all other information on the container.
- Drop medication bottles into the disposal box opening.

### WHERE are disposal boxes located & when can I drop off?

- **Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office**  
304 Laurel St., Brainerd  
Monday – Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm
- **Breezy Point Police Department**  
8361 Co. Rd. 11, Breezy Point  
Monday – Friday, 8 am to 3:30 pm
- **Crosby Police Department**  
2 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SW, Crosby  
Monday – Friday, 8 am to 4 pm
- **Nisswa Police Department**  
5442 City Hall Street, Nisswa  
Monday-Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm
- **Pequot Lakes Police Department**  
4638 Cty Rd 11, Pequot Lakes  
Monday-Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm
- **Crosslake Police Department**  
37028 Cty Rd 66, Crosslake  
Monday-Friday 8 am to 4:30 pm

### CAN I bring in someone else's medication?

This is a free, anonymous, no-questions-asked program. If needed, friends or family members may bring medication to The Box for someone else.

### WHAT about syringes, needles or "sharps"?

**NO!** These items can **NOT** go in The Box. Syringes can be safely disposed by putting them in sealed, hard plastic containers and putting them in your garbage. Talk to your pharmacist about other syringe disposal options and products that are available.

For further suggestions for syringe disposal contact Crow Wing County Solid Waste Office at 218-824-1290.

### WHAT else can NOT go into the box?

- No mercury thermometers or other mercury containing medical devices.
- No household chemicals like glues, paints and other inhalants.
- No biohazardous waste will be accepted, including items contaminated with body fluids.
- No cancer or other treatment medications, such as chemotherapy or radioactive medications.

**For proper disposal of these items call  
Crow Wing County Solid Waste  
Office at 218-824-1290.**

## WHAT happens to the medicine dropped into The Box?

The Box is emptied daily. Contents are stored in secured locations. Medicines will then be taken to a licensed site to be incinerated.

## SAFE USE OF MEDICATION:

- Read and follow directions on all medications.
- Take the recommended dose - not more, not less.
- Don't share your prescription medicine with another or take someone else's medication.

## SAFE STORAGE OF MEDICATIONS:

- Keep all medication in a safe location that is unavailable to children, teens and guests.
- Lock up narcotics or mood altering medicines.
- Keep medicines in their original containers.
- Follow storage directions on the medicine.

*For more information, contact:*

**Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office**  
**218-829-4749**

The Take it to the Box Program is the result of collaboration among the following agencies:



Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office  
218-829-4749



Crow Wing County  
Land Services - Solid Waste  
218-824-1290



Public Health  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Crow Wing County  
Community Services  
218-824-1089



Breezy Point Police Department  
218-562-4488



Crosby Police Department  
218-546-5137



Nisswa Police Department  
218-963-4444



Pequot Lakes Police Department  
218-568-8111



Crosslake Police Department  
218-692-2222



## CROW WING COUNTY MEDICATION DISPOSAL



## Unneeded Medications?

## Expired Medications?

## Take it to the Box Medication Disposal