

Medical Sharps & Prescription Drug Disposal

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Waste Programs Division
Waste Inspections & Compliance Unit
2020

Used needles can be thrown away using one of two methods:

1. Free
- or
2. Fee



The Free Method

Safely throw needles in the trash by:

- Placing in a plastic jug or metal can (to encapsulate sharps)
- Taping lid
- Writing “Do Not Recycle” on outside of container
- Placing container in a plastic or paper grocery bag
- And placing in the trash



The Fee Method

- Use a Biohazardous Medical Waste Transporter
 - Refer to ADEQ's Biohazardous Medical Waste Transporter Directory at:
static.azdeq.gov/wpd/biohaz_med_waste_transp_list.pdf
- Fees vary by transporter. Please call to get quotes

Transporters will deliver used needles to a treatment facility. After treatment, the needles are disposed of at a landfill permitted to accept treated biohazardous medical waste.

Why put used needles in containers before placing in the trash?

- To discourage trash pickers from taking needles out of trash
- To protect landfill workers
- To prevent fluids/blood from potentially leaking into soil and groundwater



■ Discarded Drugs

Any prescription medicine or over-the-counter medicine used in the treatment, or immunization of a human being or animal, that the generator intends to abandon. The term does not include hazardous waste or controlled substances regulated by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.



Prescription Drug Disposal



ARIZONA PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUG DISPOSAL LOCATIONS

Name of Department	Address	City	State	Zip	Phone #	Hours	Accepting and Not
1 Apache Junction Fire District	1645 South Idaho Road	Apache Junction	Arizona	85120		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter and sharps are accepted.
2 Apache Junction Police Dept.	1001 North Idaho Road	Apache Junction	Arizona	85119	(480) 982-6260	Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
3 Arizona City Fire Department	14022 S. Sunland Gln Road	Arizona City	Arizona	85123	(520) 466-5542	Must call first	Prescription drugs, over the counter and sharps are accepted.
4 ASU Police	325 East Apache Blvd.	Tempe	Arizona	85281	(480) 965-3436	Open M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
5 Avondale Police	11485 W. Civic Center Dr.	Avondale	Arizona	85323	(623) 333-7000	Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
6 Benson Police	360 S. Gila St., Benson	Benson	Arizona	85602	(520) 586-2211	Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
7 Bisbee Police Department	1 State Highway 92	Bisbee	Arizona	85603		Open 24/7 - Outside	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
8 Camp Verde Marshal's Office	646 S. 1st Street	Camp Verde	Arizona	86322	(928) 367-6621		Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
9 Canyonlands Health Center	227 Main Street	Duncan	Arizona	85534		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
10 Casa Grande Police Department	373 East Val Vista Blvd	Casa Grande	Arizona	85122		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
11 Casa Grande Police Department	520 North Marshall Street	Casa Grande	Arizona	85122		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
12 Chandler Police Department	230 East Chicago Street	Chandler	Arizona	85225		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
13 Chandler Police Department Substation	4040 East Chandler Road	Chandler	Arizona	85225		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
14 Chandler Police Department Substation	231 North Desert Breeze Blvd	Chandler	Arizona	85226		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
15 Chino Valley Police Dept.	1950 N. Voss Drive	Chino Valley	Arizona	86323	(928) 636-4223	Call for drop-off times	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
16 Clarkdale Police Dept.	49 N. 9th Street	Clarkdale	Arizona	86324	(928) 634-2921		Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
17 Clifton Police Department	520 North Colorado Blvd	Clifton	Arizona	85333	(928) 865-2555	Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
18 Coconino County Sheriff's Office	911 E. Sawmill Drive	Flagstaff	Arizona	86001		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
19 Coolidge Police Department	911 S. Arizona Blvd.	Coolidge	Arizona	85128		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
20 Copper Basin Fire Station	28353 N. Main Street	San Tan valley	Arizona	85142		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
21 Cottonwood Police Dept.	199 S. 6th Street	Cottonwood	Arizona	86326	(928) 634-4246		Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
22 Douglas Fire Department	425 10th Street	Douglas	Arizona	85607		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
23 Douglas Walmart Pharmacy	199 West 5th Street	Douglas	Arizona	85607		Business hours	Prescription drugs
24 Eloy Police Department	630 North Main Street	Eloy	Arizona	85131		Lobby hours	Prescription drugs, over the counter.
25 Flagstaff Police Department	911 East Sawmill	Flagstaff	Arizona	86001		Open 24/7 - Outside	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
26 Florence Police Department	425 North Final street	Florence	Arizona	85132		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter.
27 Gila County Sheriff's Office	108 West Main Street	Payson	Arizona	85941	(928) 474-2208	Open M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
28 Gila Health Resources	118 5th Street	Moreno	Arizona	85940		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
29 Gilbert Police Department	73 East Civic Center Drive	Gilbert	Arizona	85296	(480) 503-6500	Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
30 Glendale Police	6255 West Union Hills Road	Glendale	Arizona	85308	(623) 930-3000	Open M-F 7AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
31 Globe Police Department	175 North Pine Street	Globe	Arizona	85501		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
32 Goodyear Fire Station No. 3	3075 N. Ustickfield Road	Goodyear	Arizona	85395	(623) 932-1220		Prescription drugs, over the counter, liquids and no needles
33 Goodyear Police	175 N. 145th Avenue, Bldg E	Goodyear	Arizona	85338	(623) 932-1220		Prescription drugs, over the counter, liquids and no needles
34 Graham County Sheriff's Department	523 South 10th Avenue	Jefford	Arizona	85246		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
35 Greenlee County Sheriff's Office	824 South Colorado Blvd	Clifton	Arizona	85133		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
36 Jerome Police Dept.	305 Main Street	Jerome	Arizona	86331	(928) 634-8992		Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
37 LaPaz County Sheriff's Office	1109 Arizona Avenue	Parker	Arizona	85344		Business hours	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
38 Maricopa County Sheriff's Office District 4	37622 N. Cave Creek Rd.	Cave Creek	Arizona	85331	(602) 876-1742	Open M-F 9AM-4PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
39 Maricopa Police Department	45147 West Madison Ave	Maricopa	Arizona	85139		Business hours	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
40 Mesa Police Department Central	120 North Robson	Mesa	Arizona	85201		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
41 Mesa Police Department Fiesta	1010 W. Grove AVE.	Mesa	Arizona	85210		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
42 Mesa Police Department Red Mountain	4333 East University	Mesa	Arizona	85205		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
43 Mesa Police Department Superstition	2430 S. Ellsworth	Mesa	Arizona	85209		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
44 Miami Police Department	740 West Sullivan	Miami	Arizona	85539		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
45 Nogales Police Department	777 North Grand Avenue	Nogales	Arizona	85621		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, liquids and needles
46 Parker Police Department	1314 West 11th Street	Parker	Arizona	85344		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
47 Phoenix Police Department	6180 West Encanto Blvd.	Phoenix	Arizona	85033	(602) 495-3008	Open 11AM-9PM 7 days	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
48 Phoenix Police Department	2075 East Maryland Avenue	Phoenix	Arizona	85016	(602) 495-3007	Open 11AM-9PM 7 days	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
49 Pima Police Department	136 West Center	Pima	Arizona	85743		Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
50 Pinal County Sheriff's Office	63701 East Saddlebrook, Suite C	Saddlebrook	Arizona	85739		Open 2nd Fri. 10AM-Noon & 4th Tues. 2-4PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
51 Pinal County Sheriff's Office	971 North Jason Lopez Circle	Florence	Arizona	85132		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
52 Pinal County Sheriff's Office	28380 South Veterans Memorial Highway	San Manuel	Arizona	85631		Lobby hours: M-F 8AM-3PM	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
53 Pinetop Lakeside Police Department	1360 N. Niels Hansen Lane	Lakeside	Arizona	85929	(928) 368-8800	Open 24/7	Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
54 Prescott Police Dept.	222 S. Marina	Prescott	Arizona	86303	(928) 777-1988		Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles
55 Prescott Valley Police Dept.	7601 E. Civic Circle	Prescott Valley	Arizona	86314	(928) 772-9261		Prescription drugs, over the counter, no liquids, no needles

- The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) hosts National Take Back Days twice a year. Check website for current dates. ***DOES NOT include hazardous waste***
- ***April 27th***
 - takebackday.dea.gov
 - **Do not** flush medicines down the toilet



Why dispose of prescription or over-the-counter drugs this way?

To protect our soil, water and
groundwater



- Examples of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)
- Batteries
- Lead-Acid Batteries (automotive)
- Household Batteries
- Pesticides
- Solvents and Paint
- Aerosols
- Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFL's) and other Mercury containing Lamps



- Most cities provide Household Hazardous Waste events throughout the year. Please check with your city to find out when and where these events will be held.
 - Will need to show proof of residence
 - Ask what HHW your city will take
- AZRecycles: azrecycles.gov
- Recycle Search (top left button)
 - Will provide recyclers in your area that will take your HHW.

- **ADEQ Home Page**
 - azdeq.gov
- **Waste Inspections and Compliance Line**
 - 602-771-4673
- **Waste Programs Home Page**
 - azdeq.gov/WPD
- **Solid Waste Home Page**
 - azdeq.gov/solidwaste
- **Waste Programs Permits and Plan Review Unit**
 - 602-771-4123

Questions?



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