

**Unwanted, unused, or expired prescription drugs can pose a substantial risk to your community by providing the opportunity for misuse, abuse, and diversion. Establishing a permanent Rx drug drop box can offer an easy way for law enforcement agencies to address this growing threat.**

**Drop box regulations:**

* A **full-time law enforcement officer** responsible for supervising the collection.
* Disposal is to be in accordance with local agency procedures for destruction of controlled substances.
* No illicitly manufactured drugs may be collected and stored with prescription drugs.
* Destruction of drugs must comply with all federal and state laws/regulations.

**FACT SHEET:**

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG PERMANENT DROP BOX**



**Considerations:**

* **Location:** How accessible is it for citizens? During what hours? Is it behind doors that are locked in the evening?
* **Security:** What measures are taken to ensure the box is secure (Bolted to location, surveillance, personnel)?
* **Policy:** What kinds of drugs will be accepted (e.g. pills, syrups, sharps etc.)? Who is responsible for emptying the box? How are the contents secured & handled? How are they disposed? Do the measures comply with all federal and state standards, including DEA, FDA, and EPA?
* **Type of box**: What kind of box will fit in the space & meet the safety/ security requirements? Will this be ordered or made to specifications? How big will the slot need to be for disposal packages?
* **Promotion:** How will you advertise the drop-off box or encourage citizens to use it? Partnering with your local substance abuse coalition can provide great support on community outreach and promotion efforts. Coordinating with state-wide efforts following drop box installation will increase community awareness.
* **Cost:** How much will the box cost? Costs of advertising, graphics, and other related charges? Possible box vendors - [www.medreturn.com](http://www.medreturn.com/) or rxdrugdropbox.org

  

**Resources:**

* **The Arizona Prescription Drug Misuse and Abuse Initiative** - [www.RethinkRxAbuse.org](http://www.RethinkRxAbuse.org)
* **DEA Code of Federal Regulations** - <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/cfr/>
* [www.dumpthedrugsaz.org](http://www.dumpthedrugsaz.org)