

WHY WORRY?



“Older patients are likely to be prescribed more long-term prescriptions, as well as multiple prescriptions, which could potentially result in unintentional misuse.”

(National Institute On Drug Abuse)

[National Institute on Drug Addiction also offers the following statistics:](#)

- Elderly persons are particularly vulnerable to prescription drug abuse and misuse.
- As a group, they are prescribed more medications than their younger counterparts, placing them at higher risk for misuse, dependence, and addiction.
- Although persons 65 years of age and above comprise only 13% of the population, they are prescribed approximately one-third of all medications in U.S.

HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED TO THINK ABOUT HOW TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF YOUR MEDICATIONS?

Have you ever stopped to think about how to safely dispose of your medications?

For many people the answer is *no*. However, MATForce and the Senior Peer Program are working together to change that!



Open this brochure and read more . . .



YAVAPAI COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION

MATFORCE
www.matforce.org



Senior Peer Program

(928) 445-5211



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HAVE YOU EVER STOPPED TO THINK ABOUT HOW TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF YOUR MEDICATIONS?



TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR PERIODICALLY ABOUT ALL OF THE DRUGS YOU ARE TAKING (BOTH PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS)

Talk with your doctor and review the need for each medicine you take. Discard old medicines. Many drugs lose their effectiveness over time.

DUMPING DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN OR TOILET AFFECTS OUR WATER

“The presence of prescription drugs and over-the-counter medicines like acetaminophen and ibuprofen in our drinking water is heightening worries among scientists of long-term consequences to human health.”

(“Prescription drugs found in drinking water across US,” cnn.com)

“GOING GREEN” DOES NOT MEAN SHARING OR PASSING ON YOUR MEDICATIONS...



Never take drugs prescribed for a friend or relative, even though symptoms may be the same.

Medicines do not produce the same effects in all people. Weight differences, drug interactions and individual chemistry can make a difference - it could even be fatal.

The Senior Peer Program of West Yavapai Guidance Clinic is teaming up with the local MATForce to ensure elders remain safe in their use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs.

WHAT IS THE SENIOR PEER PROGRAM?

- A prevention program focused on emotional wellness
- Free services for older adults who are isolated and at-risk for depression
- Variety of outside support groups to facilitate learning and connection. All confidential
- In-home support services provided
- Information and referral assistance for “elder services”

Also, Volunteers Are Needed!

- Be part of someone’s success story.
- Be a valued member of our mental wellness team.
- Be a model for successful aging.

Want to get involved in the Senior Peer Program? Call West Yavapai Guidance Clinic at (928) 445-5211, ext 2672

WHAT IS MATFORCE?

MATForce is the Yavapai County Substance Abuse Coalition. It was founded in 2006 by hundreds of community members concerned about the devastating legal, physical and personal effects of substance abuse upon our community.

Since it began, MATForce has formed strong partnerships, supporters and volunteers from throughout Yavapai County and from all walks of life.

Contact MATForce by calling 708-0100 or emailing matforce@cableone.net

SAFELY DISPOSE OF YOUR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS AT THREE LOCATIONS IN THE PRESCOTT AREA:

This is a free service!

PRESCOTT VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Expired or unwanted prescriptions can be taken to the police department. Liquid medications must be properly sealed to prevent spillage. Liquid or other hazardous material will not be accepted.

7601 E. Civic Circle, Prescott Valley
Monday—Friday 8 am to 5 pm
772-9261

PRESCOTT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Expired or unwanted prescriptions medication can be taken to the police department during normal business hours. *No medical waste please.*

222 S. Marina, Prescott
Monday—Friday 9 am to 4:30 pm
777-1988

CHINO VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Expired or unwanted prescriptions can be taken to the police department in a sealed bag during normal business hours.

1020 W. Palomino Rd., Chino Valley
Monday—Thursday
636-4223