Medication & Substance Safety



Lock It Up. Dispose Responsibly. Stay Safe.

Medications can help manage health conditions, but they need to be used responsibly. Leftover or unused medicine should always be disposed of safely to protect people, pets, and the environment.

Safely Store Substances

Storing medicines and cannabis (weed, THC, marijuana) safely out of reach and locked away helps prevent accidental use, misuse, and keeps everyone in a home safe.



Keep drugs in their original containers with labels intact to avoid confusion or accidental misuse.



Cannabis and prescription medications can be harmful when used by someone they were not prescribed for. Even well-meaning sharing can lead to serious health risks, misuse, or addiction. Be aware—don't share.

Safely Dispose Substances

Safe disposal of unused or expired medications and cannabis products keeps harmful chemicals out of our environment—and out of the wrong hands.



Find a Barry County household drug take-back site near you. For a list of sites or drop-box locations, visit:

BarryCountySATF.com/safe-medicine-disposal/



When a take-back option is not easily available, you can scan this code to learn about your secondary options for safe disposal:

Safe storage matters, but it's not enough on its own. Talk openly with children, teens, and loved ones about the risks of using any substance not meant for them. **Honest conversations build trust and help prevent peer pressure, misuse, and harm.**





It Starts Small... But the Risks Are Real.

Think misusing a prescription or trying cannabis isn't a big deal? Wrong.

Using prescription drugs in any way other than directed—even if they're prescribed to you—can be dangerous. Taking medication that wasn't prescribed to you at all? That's misuse. And it's just as risky as using alcohol or street drugs.

Many individuals believe prescription medications, cannabis products, and other substances are safer or "less serious" than other drugs—but that false sense of safety can lead to unintended health problems, or worse. The truth? Misuse is misuse—no matter what you call it. **Choosing to be substance-free means staying in control, protecting your health, and building the future you deserve.**



Do You Or A Loved One Need Help?

If you or someone you know is struggling with misusing prescription medication, cannabis, or any substance—help is always available 24/7/365.

Whether it's you, a friend, or a loved one, you don't have to face it alone. Local resources are available 24/7—right in your own backyard with Barry County Community Mental Health Authority.

The sooner you reach out, the better the chance of healing, recovery, and even saving a life.





Barry County Community Mental Health Authority

Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic



Accidental Ingestion?

If an individual does access drugs, call Poison Control at (800) 222-1222. If symptoms are severe, call 911 or go to an emergency room immediately.



911 EMERGENCY Medical or Life Threatening



Parents and caregivers can help prevent misuse by talking to kids about how medicine is meant to help when used correctly—and why it should never be shared, played with, or taken without adult supervision.

