

WHAT TO DO WITH UNWANTED OR UNUSED PHARMACEUTICALS?



Following these simple steps can help

- protect your family and protect our community
- minimize potential damage to the environment
- prevent the illegal diversion of unused medications.
- prevent accidental drug interactions
- keep prescription drugs out of the reach of children.

For more information on this issue and to find out when a Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled visit the following website:
<http://nwmirxteam.wordpress.com>

DO NOT FLUSH

1. Consumers were once advised to flush their expired or unused medications; however, recent environmental studies report that this is having an adverse impact on the environment, our waters and fish stock.
2. When disposing of medications in the trash, protect children and pets from harm!

American Pharmacists Association (APhA) recommends that consumers:

- Crush solid medications or dissolve them in water (this applies for liquid medications as well)
- Then mix with coffee grounds, kitty litter, dog poo or sawdust (or any material that absorbs the dissolved medication and makes it less appealing for pets or small children to eat)
- Place in a sealed plastic bag, preferably double bag or unbreakable, sealable container BEFORE tossing in the trash.
- Remove and destroy ALL identifying personal information (prescription label) from the medication container.
- Check for approved state and local collection programs or with area hazardous waste facilities.**



INSTRUCTIONS FOR RETURNING DRUGS

- Remove or destroy ALL identifying personal information (prescription label) on the medication container.
- Bag all original containers together.
- Or** empty all pills or capsules into a single double bagged sealed plastic bags.
- For liquid items, remove or destroy labels and place container **INSIDE** another sealed **unbreakable** one.
- For any needles/sharps PLACE INSIDE A SEALED UNBREAKABLE CONTAINER.**