

Medication Disposal...

Do

- Follow proper disposal guidelines
- Use medications as prescribed
- Store medications securely
- Tell your providers about all products you use

Don't

- Share drugs with anyone
- Flush drugs down the toilet
- Throw drugs away in the trash without disguising them
- Accept samples you will not use



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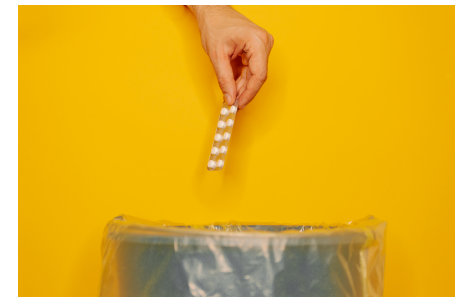
Learn More:

www.fda.gov/drugs/safe-disposal-medicines/disposal-unused-medicines-what-you-should-know

My Green Doctor is a free environmental sustainability resource for healthcare offices and communities



SAFE DISPOSAL OF PRESCRIBED & NON-PRESCRIBED MEDICINES



SAVES LIVES

Know the Risks!

Not disposing of medication properly can cause many health and environmental risks.



Environmental Risk

Standard water treatment methods do not filter out medicines from the water supply. These have a negative impact on water quality. Contaminated water can end up in crops, farm animals, and people.



Health Risk

Improper disposal or failure to dispose of medications can lead to drug abuse by others, accidental poisoning, and to a patient taking wrong or expired medications.

Follow these simple steps to dispose of medicines in the household trash

MIX

Mix medicines (do not crush tablets or capsules) **with an unpalatable substance** such as dirt, kitty litter, or used coffee grounds;



PLACE

Place the mixture **in a container** such as a sealed plastic bag;



THROW

Throw the container **in your household trash**;



SCRATCH OUT

Scratch out **all personal information** on the prescription label of your empty pill bottle or empty medicine packaging to make it unreadable, then dispose of the container.



Take it to the Box!

Drug Take-Back Programs

Ask your provider or pharmacist about secure locations to dispose of medications.

Many communities offer secure drop-off boxes. To find a site near you, visit your local government website, local pharmacy, or law enforcement office.



Never Flush!