



HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF PRESCRIPTIONS AND MEDICATIONS

DO NOT flush old medications down the toilet or pour down the sink. According to the director of Fisheries and Habitat Conservation, trace amounts of chemical compounds often associated with medications have been increasingly detected in our waters. Treatment plants are not designed to remove medications from wastewater. Therefore, chemicals disposed of in sinks and toilets can reach the environment unintentionally.

Medications are NOT accepted at VPPSA Household Chemical Events.

Check with your local pharmacy to see if they participate in a medication take-back program- many Walgreens do. If not, ***please take the following steps:***

- Keep medications in the original bottle if possible, and mark out all identifying personal information on the prescription label.
- Crush solid medications or dissolve them in water, and mix with kitty litter, sawdust, coffee grounds or another substance that will make the drug unsuitable for human or animal consumption. This applies to liquid medications as well. The addition of foreign substances is to discourage children or others from removing the discarded medicines from the trash and taking them. Seal the bottle with the lid.
- Put the medicine bottle, preferably concealed within a non-recyclable container, in your household trash for disposal. (If it's too difficult to use the original container, you can also place the mix in a plastic baggie or other container.)