



Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCP) Disposal Of Unwanted Residential Medications

Do Not Flush Drugs Down Sink Drains or Toilets!

- Many compounds found in medications are not easily treated by our wastewater treatment plants. The components end up being discharged into our surface and ground water.
- Check with your pharmacy to see if they have a drug take back program.
- Find out if there is a collection event in your area.
- Special handling is required of chemotherapy drugs. Work with your healthcare provider for proper disposal.

Keep pharmaceuticals in their original containers

- The caps are childproof and the containers are durable.
- Conceal your personal information by covering it with a permanent marker, duct tape, or by scratching it off.

Solid Medications (Pills and Capsules)

- Add a small amount of water to partially dissolve drugs.
- Seal container with duct or other opaque tape.
- Double bag the contained drugs in a closeable plastic bag, or put in a disposable container with a lid, such as a margarine tub and put it in the trash.

Liquid Medications

- Add enough table salt, flour, charcoal, or non-toxic powdered spice to make it a pungent unsightly mixture to discourage anyone from eating it.
- Seal container with duct or other opaque tape to prevent leakage.
- Double bag the contained drugs in a closeable plastic bag, or put in a disposable container with a lid, such as a margarine tub and put it in the trash.

Blister Packs

- Wrap packs containing pills with duct or other opaque tape.
- Double bag the contained drugs in a closeable plastic bag, or put in a disposable container with a lid and put it in the trash.



Ampules, Vials, and IV Bags

- Wrap packs containing pills with duct or other opaque tape to minimize breakage.
- Place in an opaque container with a lid, such as a margarine tub or yogurt container.
- Tape closed and put it in the trash.

Proper disposal of drugs is an excellent way for people to prevent pollution

Informational Links:

<http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/>

<http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/meds/index.html>

<http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-ess-cau-rxbrochure.pdf>

http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/publications/pdf/prescrip_disposal.pdf

Genesee County Drain Commissioner's Office Division of Water and Waste Services- Environmental Compliance Office