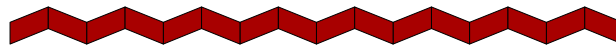




How to Dispose of Unused Medicines



Office of Safety and Security Fact Sheet

DON'T FLUSH UNUSED MEDICINES

Flushed medicines can end up in our rivers and streams. To help protect our environment, throw unused, unwanted or expired over-the-counter and prescription medicines in the trash. Don't flush medicines — except when specifically instructed by the label.



DO THROW IN THE TRASH The American Pharmacists Association recommends steps for safely disposing of pills and liquids. These steps will help prevent their misuse or accidental ingestion by children or pets.

1. Keep the medicines in their original container. This will help identify the contents if they are accidentally ingested.
2. Cross out student identifying information and prescription number for safety.
3. For pills: add some salt water to start dissolving them. For liquids: add something inedible like cat litter, dirt or ash.
4. Seal the container and secure with duct or packing tape.
5. Double bag the containers by putting the containers in a separate trash bag and then by putting that trash bag in the clinic trash receptacle. Do not put in the recycle bin.



For questions, please contact the Office of Safety and Security at 571-423-2010.
For more information/updates go to: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/dontflush/>