

NO MEDICATIONS DOWN THE DRAIN



UNUSED
MEDICATIONS
SHOULD NOT BE
PUT DOWN THE
DRAIN OR
FLUSHED DOWN
THE TOILET.

Unused prescription and over-the-counter medications that are put down the drain or flushed down the toilet pollute the environment.

One very important thing everyone can begin with is to take medications as directed and finish the prescription when directed to do so by your doctor.



DISPOSING OF UNUSED, UNWANTED, AND EXPIRED MEDICATIONS

Once it was common practice to flush these medications (also known as pharmaceuticals) down the toilet. We now know that these substances are harmful for our environment - the water and air around us.

So, what should you do?

One very important thing everyone can begin with is to take medications as directed and finish the prescription when directed to do so by your doctor.



OPTIONS TO DISPOSE OF UNUSED, UNWANTED, AND EXPIRED MEDICATIONS

1. Contact your pharmacy or doctor's office to inquire if they recommend a safe medication disposal method.
2. Put in a sturdy and securely sealed container and place in a trash can where children and pets can't reach them.

To avoid accidental and intentional ingestion follow these steps:



- Safety—When possible, all medications put in the trash should be "treated" in some way to prevent people and animals from eating them. You can do this by simply adding water and salt, kitty litter, or dirt to the container.
- Container—Use the original container with safety caps, if available, and tape the lid to the container with duct tape or another type of sturdy tape.
- Privacy—If desired, remove patient's name, drug name, prescription number, and other personal information from the container before disposal.