



Rx Pain Medications

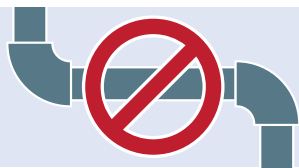
KNOW THE OPTIONS • GET THE FACTS

Safe Disposal of Prescription Medications



Of the 4 billion prescriptions filled in the United States every year, **one-third of them go unused**. That's 200 million pounds of unused medications.¹

Unused medications should be disposed of as soon as possible to limit the possibility of illegal use.



Flushing or dumping down a drain is not the best way to dispose of medication. Sewage treatment systems can't remove all the medications from the water released into lakes, rivers, or oceans in your area.²

So what are the other options?

Medication "Take-Back" Programs

"Take-back" programs allow the public to bring unused drugs to a central location for proper disposal. Call your local government's trash and recycling service to see if a program is available.

In addition:

- The DEA allows you to mail back unused prescription medications to pharmacies and other authorized sites using packages made available at pharmacies and other locations.
- Most states have agency collection boxes overseen by law enforcement or pharmacies. Call the DEA's Registration Call Center to find box locations or other disposal sites: 1-800-882-9539, or go to <https://nabp.pharmacy/initiatives/awarxe/drug-disposal-locator/> or <https://www.deatakeback.com/>
- Community coalitions and law enforcement in your area may sponsor "medication take-back events" periodically.

Disposal in Household Trash

If these programs are not available in your area, place the drugs in the trash by following these steps:

- Remove them from their original containers and conceal or remove any personal information, including the Rx number, from the container.
- Mix the medications with something inedible, such as coffee grounds or kitty litter.
- Place the empty container and the mixture in a sealed bag or empty can.

For more information, go to <https://www.epa.gov/research>, <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/resourcesforyou/consumers/buyingusingmedicinesafely/ensuringsafeuseofmedicine/safedisposalofmedicines/default.htm> or <https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/prevention/safely-dispose-drugs/index.html>.



¹ Dispose My Meds. (n.d.). You and the environment. Retrieved from <http://disposemymeds.org/environmental-impact/>

² United States Geological Survey. (2014). Pharmaceuticals, hormones, and other organic wastewater contaminants in U.S. streams. Retrieved from

<http://toxics.usgs.gov/pubs/FS-027-02/pdf/FS-027-02.pdf>

CARMEL**Carmel-by-the-Sea Police Department**

No sharps or liquids,
controlled substances OK
SE corner of Junipero and 4th Street
(831) 624-6403

CASTROVILLE**Castroville Branch Library**

No controlled substances
11160 Speegle Street
(831) 769-8724

DEL REY OAKS**Del Rey Oaks Police Department**

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
650 Canyon Del Rey Blvd.
(831) 394-9333

MARINA**Monterey County Health Department Behavioral Health Marina Clinic**

No sharps,
no controlled substances
299 12th Street
(831) 755-4510

MRWMD

No controlled substances,
OTC meds ONLY
14201 Del Monte Blvd.
(831) 384-5313

Marina Police Department

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
211 Hillcrest Avenue
(831) 884-1278

Walgreens Marina

No controlled substances
226 Reservation Road
(831) 384-4700

MONTEREY**Community Hospital Pharmacy**

No sharps, controlled substances OK

(Controlled substances, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.)
23625 Holman Highway
(831) 624-5311

Community Hospital Front Lobby

Sharps OK (red bin), no controlled substances (white bin)
23625 Holman Highway
(831) 624-5311

Monterey Police Department

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
351 Madison Street
(831) 646-3830

PACIFIC GROVE**Central Avenue Pharmacy**

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
133 15th Street
(831) 373-1225

Pacific Grove Police Department

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
580 Pine Avenue
(831) 648-3143

PEBBLE BEACH**Pebble Beach Community Service District**

No controlled substances,
sharps OK
3101 Forest Lake Road
(831) 373-1274

SEASIDE**Seaside Police Department**

Controlled substances OK
440 Harcourt Avenue
(831) 394-6811

Walgreens Seaside

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
1055 Fremont Blvd.
(831) 393-9231

SALINAS**Alisal Pharmacy**

Controlled substances OK, sharps OK
323 N. Sanborn Road
(831) 424-7321

AllCare Pharmacy

Controlled substances OK, sharps OK
331 Main Street
(831) 424-8053

Monterey County Health Department Behavioral Health

No sharps,
no controlled substances
1441 Constitution Boulevard, Building 400, Suite 200
(831) 755-4510

CVS Pharmacy

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
1140 S. Main Street
(831) 422-8511

Monterey County Health Department

No sharps,
no controlled substances
1270 Natividad Road
(831) 621-5558

Star Pharmacy

No sharps,
controlled substances OK
1273 S Main Street
(831) 755-4456

Sun Street Centers

No sharps,
no controlled substances
8 Sun Street
(831) 753-5145

Valley Health Associates

No controlled substances,
sharps OK
427 Pajaro Street, Suite 4
(831) 424-6655