

# Medication Drop-Box Program

## What else can I do?

- Dispose of pharmaceuticals during community Drug Take Back events.
- Purchase drugs in small amounts, limiting your expired medications.
- Purchase medications or products with low environmental impact.
- Do not give medications to friends. Drugs that work for you may be dangerous for someone else.
- Speak to your teen about the dangers of prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse.
- Take good care of yourself, and practice preventive medicine, to reduce your reliance on medications.
- And please; do NOT dispose of your unused medications in the toilet.

## Collection locations

Many municipal police departments are now participating in the Medication Drop-Box Program.

These drop boxes are managed by police departments and are available 24 hours a day / 7 days a week. This is a confidential free service that will help protect our environment and our youth.

For a list of participating police departments, visit our website at [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp) or contact the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection Prescription Monitoring Program at (860) 713-6073.



## Local Disposal of Unused, Unwanted or Expired Medications

Without Endangering the Environment or Water Supplies



Scan this QR code with your smart phone to visit our drug disposal website.



Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection  
Prescription Monitoring Program  
165 Capitol Avenue, Room 145 • Hartford, CT 06106  
860.713.6073 • [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp)



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## Medication Disposal Safely • Easily • Properly

There is growing concern that medications flushed down the drain endanger the aquatic environment and wildlife. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove all medications from wastewater. Therefore, disposing medication properly will reduce the overall risk of exposure to you, your family and the environment.

Unused medications left in medicine cabinets and other areas around the home have become a concern as well.

According to the Partnership for a Drug Free America:

- 6 out of 10 teens agree that prescription drugs are easy to get from parents' medicine cabinets.
- 4 out of 10 teens think that prescription drugs are safer to use than illegal drugs.

### Here's how it works

Municipal police departments across the state are installing medication drop-boxes in their facilities to make it easier for their residents to remove unwanted or expired medications from their homes at no cost.

The medication drop-boxes are usually mounted on the lobby floor or wall and are accessible 24/7 in most police departments.

Not all medications can be discarded in the drop-boxes. **Residents are advised to contact their local police departments to obtain a list of disposable medication.**

### Possible items that may be accepted:

- Over-the-counter medications
- Prescription medications
- Medication samples
- Medications for household pets
- Medicated lotions or ointments

### Possible items that may NOT be accepted:

- Needles or other "sharps"
- Hazardous waste
- Thermometers
- Personal care products (e.g. non-medicated shampoo, soap, etc.)
- Trash
- Mail
- Lost and found materials
- Empty containers
- Business/professional waste

### Another safe disposal method

Dispose of medications in your household trash by:

- 1. Keeping the medication in its original container.** Use a permanent marker, duct tape or remove the label to protect your private information
- 2. Making medication less appealing.** Mix your medication with hot water to dissolve them. Add an undesirable substance, such as saw dust, coffee grounds or kitty litter.
- 3. Containing and sealing.** Place it inside a container such as an empty yogurt or margarine tub to ensure that the contents cannot be seen and tape it shut.
- 4. Throwing out the container in your trash can.** Do not put the container in your recycling bin!

