

# 3 Options for Safe Drug Disposal



## 1. Use a Take-Back Program

- Check with your pharmacy. Some pharmacies have mail-back programs and/or disposal kiosks.
- Check with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to find an authorized collector in your community. Visit [www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal) or call 1-800-882-9539.
- Contact your local law enforcement officials to find a take-back location nearest you.

## 2. Flush-It When Appropriate



- If left unsecured, some drugs can be a deadly risk to others in your home.
- Some medicines have specific instructions to flush them down the toilet when no longer needed immediately, and a take-back option is not readily available.
- Ask your pharmacist if your medicine is on the list of drugs that should be flushed. This information can be accessed at [www.fda.gov/drugdisposal](http://www.fda.gov/drugdisposal).



## 3. Trash-It When Indicated

- Use this option if a take-back program is not readily available and the product is not on the flush list.
- Mix medicines (do not crush tablets or capsules) with a substance like dirt, cat litter, or used coffee grounds.
- Place the mixture in a sealed container like a plastic bag.
- Throw the container in your household trash.
- Delete all personal information on the prescription label of the empty pill bottles or medicine packaging, then dispose the container.



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