

Proper disposal of unneeded or expired medication can prevent prescription drug misuse and accidental poisonings. It can also protect the environment. Drop off unneeded or expired prescription medications at a local drug take-back location. If no medicine take back programs or DEA-authorized take back events are available and no specific disposal instructions were provided, follow these steps to dispose most medicines in the household trash:



- 1** Mix medicines (do not crush) with an unpalatable substance (i.e., dirt, kitty litter, or used coffee grounds)
- 2** Place the mixture in a container with a lid or sealable plastic bag
- 3** Throw the container in your household trash
- 4** Eliminate all personal information on the medicine bottle and dispose the container



When in doubt about proper disposal, contact your local pharmacist.

Source: FDA



**DRUG
TAKE
BACK
CONTAINER**

Resources:

Illinois EPA: Medication - <http://www.epa.illinois.gov/medication-disposal>

Disposal Locations: <https://apps.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubdispsearch/spring/main?execution=e1s1>

Need Help?
1.833.2FINDHELP
helplineil.org



Fully funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through the Opioid State Targeted Response grant administered by the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery, (11-080231).