



SMART DISPOSAL FOR UNWANTED MEDICATIONS

Sources: State of Michigan Environmental Science and Services and
Waste and Hazardous Materials Divisions
FDA Consumer Health Information 2009

Prescription for a Healthy Environment



Smart Disposal for Unwanted Medications

Is your medicine cabinet full of expired or unused medications?

Medicines flushed down toilets or poured in sink drains is a new and growing concern affecting the health of our rivers and lakes.

When pharmaceuticals are flushed or poured down a sink or drain they make their way into surface waters through the municipal wastewater treatment system.

Protecting the environment is everyone's responsibility. Do your part and follow these simple steps!

Additional Resources:

City of Port Huron Water Reclamation Facility
(810) 984-9775
St. Clair County Landfill
(810) 989-6981

Follow these medicine disposal steps to safeguard lives and the environment.

- Follow the specific disposal instructions on the drug label.
- If no instructions are given, never flush drugs down the toilet or the sink.
- Always throw drugs in the trash by putting them in a sealable bag.
- First mix them with a substance such as coffee grounds or kitty litter to make them undesirable.
- Scratch out patient information.
- Put mixture in a sealable or double bag to prevent leakage.
- Talk to your pharmacist when in doubt.

***NEVER* flush drugs
down the toilet or
sink drains!**



St. Clair County Health Department
Environmental Health Division
(810) 987-5306
www.stclaircounty.org/offices/health