Medicines: The Right Way to Throw Away

Here’s How

1. Remove and destroy all labels from medicine bottle, or use a marker to cross out your name, the doctor’s name and Rx number.
2. Remove lid from an empty coffee can or other container.
3. Add coffee grounds or kitty litter to the container. Do not overfill.
4. Open the medicine bottle and dump the pills, tablets or liquid into the same container.
5. Place lid on container to seal it.
6. Throw sealed container into household trash.

Other Ways You Can Help

Think about the way you buy and use your medicines.
Buy only what you need.
Keep track of the medicines you have.
Always check expiration dates.
Check for local events that collect leftover medicines.
Ask your doctor and pharmacist to talk to people about the right way to throw away medicines.
Keep medicines out of reach of children and teenagers.

To learn more visit www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov
Direct Link: www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/drugfact/faqs.html#18

Thank you for helping to make our environment safer.

Philadelphia Water Department
www.phila.gov/water

Women’s Health & Environmental Network
www.WHEN.org