

## Opioid Storage & Disposal

#### Handout

#### Do you have prescription opioids in your home?

Prescription opioids are often involved in accidental poisonings and intentional misuse. Remove the risk from your home by disposing of any leftover opioids when you are done using them.

#### Why is it important to dispose of these safely?

- It protects the planet and its inhabitants by keeping medications out of the water supply and from seeping into the ground
- Limits adolescent/adult misuse of unused medications
- Protects our pets and children from accidental exposure and/or overdose

#### Keys to safe storage:

- Keep medications out of reach and out of sight. Store in a private area if possible.
- Make sure safety caps are on and secured.
- Teach children about medication safety.
- Keep track of how many pills you use and how many you have left.

### How to safely dispose of unused opioids:

- National Takeback Day https://www.dea.gov/takebackday
- DEA Year-Round Drop-off locations: (look up tool)
   <a href="https://apps.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubdispsearch/spring/main?execution=e1s1">https://apps.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/pubdispsearch/spring/main?execution=e1s1</a>
- Drug disposal pouches can be purchased online or obtained at some pharmacies or local Health Departments

https://disposerx.com/

- At-home disposal
  - Remove the medication from its container and mix it with an undesirable substance such as dirt, used cat litter, sawdust, home cleanser, or used coffee grounds.
  - Put the mixture in a sealed plastic bag/container that does not leak and place it in your trash.
  - Scratch out or remove personal information on the label, then recycle the pill bottle to keep others from trying to order







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Handout refills.