

Citizen's Guide to the Michigan Wellhead Protection Program




Adopted from
Michigan Rural Water Association's
Source Water Protection Program Article Series

1.9

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT: PROPERLY DISPOSE OF PHARMACEUTICAL DRUGS

WHAT IS A PHARMACEUTICAL?

A pharmaceutical drug, also called medicine, is any substance intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease.



✓ Protect the groundwater and surface water bodies.

✓ Protect your family and our community.

✓ Prevent the illegal diversion of unused medications.

✓ Prevent accidental drug interactions.

✓ Keep prescription drugs out of the reach of children.

Did you know that...
If you flush prescriptions down the toilet, they will likely end up in the groundwater or surface water.

For further information, please visit:
www.epa.gov/ppcp

FEDERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF DRUGS

- 1st.** Remove unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs from the original containers; crush solid medications or dissolve them in water.
- 2nd.** Mix the prescription drugs with undesirable substances such as coffee grounds or cat litter (less appealing to pets and children).
- 3rd.** Place them in a container (i.e. empty can, sealed bag) and put them in the trash.
- 4th.** Remove and destroy all identifying personal information (prescription label) from the medication container.

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