

## PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT: PROPERLY DISPOSE PHARMACEUTICAL DRUGS

### WHAT IS A PHARMACEUTICAL?

A pharmaceutical drug, also referred to as a medication or a prescription, is any substance intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease.



### DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

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

- ✓ 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

For further information,  
please visit:  
<https://www.epa.gov/household-medication-disposal>

### FEDERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF DRUGS

- 1<sup>ST</sup>** — REMOVE UNUSED, UNNEEDED OR EXPIRED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM THE ORIGINAL CONTAINERS; CRUSH SOLID MEDICATIONS OR DISSOLVE THEM IN WATER.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>** — MIX THE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS WITH UNDESIRABLE SUBSTANCES SUCH AS COFFEE GROUNDS OR CAT LITTER (Less appealing to pets & children).
- 3<sup>RD</sup>** — PLACE THEM IN A CONTAINER (I.e. EMPTY CAN, SEALED BAG) AND PUT THEM IN THE TRASH.
- 4<sup>th</sup>** — REMOVE AND DESTROY ALL IDENTIFYING PERSONAL INFORMATION (PRESCRIPTION LABEL) FROM THE MEDICATION CONTAINER.