

# SAFELY SECURE AND DISPOSE OF UNUSED MEDICATIONS

Unsecured, unused and expired medications pose a health risk to your family and community. Proper disposal helps prevent misuse and accidental poisonings and it also protects the environment.



# **At-Home Medication Disposal**

# Mix with an Undesirable Substance



Black out personal information on the prescription label so that it is unreadable. Mix medications with an undesirable substance (kitty litter, coffee grinds, etc.), put in container and throw in the trash. <a href="mailto:bit.ly/FFX-Drug-Disposal">bit.ly/FFX-Drug-Disposal</a>

#### Use a Deactivation Kit



Deactivation kits contain a substance that neutralizes medications.

Get a free kit from the Community Services Board: <u>bit.ly/med-disposal-kits</u>

## **Drop Boxes**



Drop unused medications, including pet medications, in a permanent drop box, in a medication drop box any time during business hours, year-round.

Scan the QR code to see year-round drop box locations:



National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is held twice yearly (in April and October) at local police stations.

# **Lock Up Your Medications**



A lock box can keep medications safe to protect from misuse or accidental poisoning.

Get a free lock box from the Community Services Board: bit.ly/med-lock-box

# **Sharps Disposal**



Sharps, including Epi-pens, auto-injectors and insulin pens, can be thrown in the regular trash by following these steps:

With a permanent marker, LABEL a rigid container with a screw-on cap (empty laundry detergent bottle or bleach bottle) with "CAUTION! SYRINGES - NEEDLES. DO NOT RECYCLE!"

NOTE: DO NOT use glass containers, plastic soda bottles, milk jugs, or aluminum cans.

- CLIP or RECAP/RE-SHEATHE the needle.
- SEAL full containers. SCREW on cap. WRAP cap with tape.
- DISPOSE of sealed containers with your household trash.
- DO NOT recycle sharps or sharps containers. DO NOT place loose sharps directly into trash bags and DO NOT flush sharps down the toilet.

Get more information on disposal options: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/fairfax-haz-waste">bit.ly/fairfax-haz-waste</a>



