

Proper Rx Disposal in Pinellas County

Consumers and caregivers

should remove expired, unwanted or unused medicines from their homes as quickly as possible to help reduce the chance that others may accidentally take or intentionally misuse the unneeded medicines.

Operation Medicine Cabinet®

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office collaborates with local law enforcement to establish permanent Drop-Off Boxes.

Current locations include:

- Largo (2)
- Clearwater (2)
- Dunedin
- Tarpon Springs
- Treasure Island
- St. Petersburg
- Pinellas Park
- Kenneth City
- Gulfport



To find a location near you, go to www.PinellasDrugAbuse.com



In addition to permanent drop-off locations, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) periodically hosts National Prescription Drug Take Back events at different locations throughout the community. You will be notified of these through local media or you can go to www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback

There are also ways to dispose of your meds at home

According to the DEA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), most medicines can be thrown into your household trash but you want to follow the below steps to do so properly.

- 1 Remove drugs from their original containers and mix them with something undesirable, such as used coffee grounds, dirt, or cat litter. This makes the medicine less appealing to someone who might intentionally go through the trash looking for drugs.
- 2 Put the mixture in something you can close to prevent the drug from leaking or spilling out.
- 3 Throw the container in the garbage.
- 4 Scratch out all your personal information on the empty medicine packaging to protect your identity and privacy and throw away.



Different products are now on the market that allow for convenient home disposal. Ask your pharmacist what they have available for purchase.

Prepared for the Pinellas County Opioid Task Force
by Drug Free America Foundation, Inc. www.dfaf.org

