

If you cannot get to a Medication Collection Site

The best way to dispose of your unused medication is at a medication collection site. Please do not flush medication down the toilet. If you cannot get to a site, please take the following precautions when placing it in the trash:

- Pour medication into a sealable plastic bag. If medication is a solid (pill, capsule etc.), add water to dissolve it.
- Add kitty litter, coffee grounds or anything that would make it less appealing for children or pets to eat, to the bag.
- Remove and destroy all identifying information on the prescription label on the medication containers before recycling or throwing them away.
- Wrap sealed plastic bags and all empty containers in newspaper before putting them in the trash. This will help make sure that your unused medication is not easily seen and does not get into the wrong hands or eaten by a pet.
- Put disposed medication in your trash can on the same day as your trash pick up. Leaving it in the trash over night or for just one day is enough time for someone else to find it.
- For more information visit:
www.coloradomedtakeback.info

Why you should dispose of medications safely

- Medications can fall into the hands of young children and cause accidental poisoning.
More than 60,000 young children under the age of five are seen in ERs each year due to accidental poisoning.¹
- Sometimes, unused medications can be experimented with by older children and teens.
1 in 4 teens has misused or abused a prescription drug at least once in their lifetime.²
- Flushing and putting unused medications in the trash can pollute our lakes, streams and water supplies.
A recent study shows that 80% of US streams contain small amounts of human medicine.³

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2012
2. The Partnership at Drugfree.org 2013
3. United States Geological Survey

Jefferson County Public Health

Lakewood

(303) 232-6301

jeffco.us/public-health

May 2014

Safe Medication Disposal



How and Where to Dispose of Unused Medication



303-232-6301

jeffco.us/public-health

Public Health...Every day, Everywhere, Everyone

Medication Collection Sites in Jefferson County

King Soopers
1173 Bergen Parkway
Evergreen, CO
303-692-2903
By the pharmacy



Accepted Medications

- ✓ All prescription medications, except for narcotics and controlled substances
- ✓ Over-the-counter medications
- ✓ Pet medications
- ✓ Vitamins
- ✓ Medication samples
- ✓ Liquid medication is glass or leak-proof containers
- ✓ Medicated ointments and lotions
- ✓ Ointments and Inhalers

Unable to Accept

- ✓ Narcotics and other controlled substances
- ✓ Aerosol cans
- ✓ Mercury Thermometers
- ✓ Needles
- ✓ Bloody or infectious waste
- ✓ Personal care products
- ✓ Hydrogen Peroxide
- ✓ IV Bags
- ✓ Plastic Bags
- ✓ Empty Containers
- ✓ Business waste

Littleton City Government Center
2255 W. Berry Ave
Littleton, CO 80120
Dispose medication in the green collection box at the West end of the parking lot.



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King Soopers
3400 Youngfield St.
Wheat Ridge, CO
303-692-2903
By the pharmacy



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