



## HOW DO I GET RID OF IT?

The A to Z Guide for Recycling & Disposal in Pinellas County

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/getridofit>

Questions? Call Solid Waste at 464-7500.

All phone numbers are area code 727, unless otherwise indicated.

## Medications / Pharmaceutical Waste

any prescription drugs or medicines used for people or pets  
including pills, liquids, inhalers, patches, or Epi-Pens

—View safe options for [syringe disposal](#).—

### \* NOTE: Do NOT put medications down the toilet or sink!

Wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to remove medications.

Medications can interfere with treatment facility operations or pass through the facility and harm plants or fish downstream.

For more information, visit [DisposeMyMeds.org](http://DisposeMyMeds.org).

- Drop off** at an Operation Medicine Cabinet *Lock Your Meds* box for free safe disposal by incineration. No information will be required. Secure the caps on liquid medicine bottles with tape. This program is for the general public, and not for commercial use including doctors' offices. The Sheriff's Office locations are available 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Treasure Island is available 24/7.
  - Sheriff's North District Station, 737 Loudon Ave., Dunedin (582-6900)
  - Sheriff's Administration, 10750 Ulmerton Rd., Largo (582-6200)
  - Treasure Island Police Dept., 180 - 108<sup>th</sup> Ave., Treasure Island (547-4595)
  - [Print-friendly flyer](#)
  - [Video](#)
- Drop off** at a Pinellas County Sheriff's *Operation Medicine Cabinet* event for free safe disposal by incineration. The next event will be held on **Saturday, April 28, 2012** from 10am to 2pm (locations to be determined). For more information, call the Sheriff's Public Information Office at 582-6221.
- Purchase** a TakeAway Medication Envelope for \$3 to \$4 at [Walgreens](#), [CVS](#), or [Winn Dixie](#) pharmacies to mail in unwanted prescription medications. The fee covers postage and safe disposal.
- Dispose.** Do not flush medicine (prescription or over-the-counter) down the toilet or pour it down the drain. You can dispose medicine in the regular trash. Prior to disposal, take a few minutes to secure the medicine to reduce the risk of items falling into the wrong hands or being mistakenly ingested:
  - Package:* Keep medicine in its original container to help identify the contents in case of accidental ingestion.
  - Privacy:* Mark out the patient's name and prescription number on the label.
  - Treatment:* "Treat" pills by adding water or soda to dissolve them. For liquids, add something absorbent such as cat litter or dirt.
  - Seal:* Close the lid, and secure it with duct or packing tape. Place the sealed bottle inside an opaque (non-see-through) container such as a coffee can or plastic laundry bottle. Tape the container closed.
  - Hide:* Conceal the container inside a trash can. Do not place in a recycle bin.
  - [Print-friendly flyer](#) (English) | [Print-friendly flyer](#) (Spanish)

This guide is provided as a service for our residents. A listing does not constitute an endorsement by Pinellas County.

The listing is not all-inclusive or exclusive, and is subject to change. Contact the organizations listed to verify program details.

Help us keep the guide up-to-date! Please [click here](#) to give us comments, corrections, or additions.



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### Medications/Pharmaceutical Waste *continued*

5. **Businesses** may not dispose of hazardous pharmaceutical waste in the regular trash.
  - a) Non-hazardous, over-the-counter pharmaceutical waste: Call Solid Waste Operations at 464-7500 for acceptance criteria.
  - b) Medical industry: Call a Florida Dept. of Health registered [biomedical waste transporter](#) who will provide collection boxes/bags, pickup and safe disposal.
  - c) For more information: See [Pharmaceutical Waste Management](#) from the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection.

Also see: [Pet supplies](#) (to donate unused medications for pets)

[Pill bottles](#)

[Syringes](#)