

## contact local agencies for additional information



**Coeur d'Alene Police Dept.**  
3818 Schreiber Way  
Tel: 208.769.2320  
[www.cdaid.org](http://www.cdaid.org)



**Post Falls Police Dept.**  
1717 E. Polston Avenue  
Tel: 208.773.3517  
[www.postfallspolice.com](http://www.postfallspolice.com)



**Rathdrum Police Dept.**  
8178 W. Main Street  
Tel: 208.687.0711  
[www.rathdrum.org](http://www.rathdrum.org)



**Kootenai County Sheriff Dept.**  
5500 N. Government Way  
Tel: 208.446.1300  
[www.kcsheriff.com](http://www.kcsheriff.com)



**Idaho State Police**  
615 W. Wilbur  
Tel: 208.772.6055  
[www.isp.state.id.us](http://www.isp.state.id.us)



For general information about drinking water  
and water quality, please contact:

**Dept. of Environmental Quality**  
2110 Ironwood Parkway  
Tel: 208.769.1422  
[www.deq.idaho.gov](http://www.deq.idaho.gov)

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[www.northwestspecialtyhospital.com](http://www.northwestspecialtyhospital.com)

# medication turn-in program

## important information

- According to Denis Yost, Pharmacy Director at Kootenai Health, saving unused prescription drugs is a bad idea. "Certain drugs tend to degrade and some even become toxic over time. Others are heat sensitive or have active ingredients which can settle, meaning you can't be sure of the proper dosing. When you have finished your course of treatment with a prescription, dispose of it."
- Sid Fredrickson, from the City Wastewater Treatment Plant stated: "There is growing concern that personal care products and pharmaceuticals can pass through a wastewater treatment plant and end up poisoning aquatic life in our rivers and streams. We ask our citizens not to flush these products down the drain."
- Mayor Clay Larkin, from the City of Post Falls stated: "Our community is very grateful to be part of this important program of collecting old, unused, unwanted or outdated drugs, to keep them away from our youth, and get them out of the Spokane River. Hats off to our partners."

PREVENT POLLUTION  
DISPOSE MEDICINES SAFELY



"Tons of drugs dumped into  
wastewater affect wildlife and  
humans on an unknown scale"

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## medication turn-in program

If you have prescription drugs that are outdated, no longer needed, or you want to dispose of them properly, please contact your local law enforcement agency.

We are available during normal business hours to assist in the proper disposal of such items.

There are many risks associated with storing prescription drugs that are not part of a current drug therapy. The prescriptions may be outdated and therefore will not effectively treat the symptoms they are intended for.

Prescription drugs that are stored and not currently being taken by the person they are subscribed to, can be taken by mistake or stolen.

If prescription drugs are disposed of in our water supply, a potential for contamination of the water occurs.

Law enforcement wants to work with you to dispose of these items in a safe manner. We appreciate any cooperation you can give in accommodating this process.

## who is responsible for disposing of unused medicines?

Pharmacists, law enforcement agencies and municipal waste organizations are currently taking the most responsibility for properly disposing of unused drugs.

An investigation by the The Associated Press found that drinking water supplied to at least 46 million Americans carried residues of antibiotics, anticonvulsants, mood stabilizers, sex hormones and other pharmaceuticals.

please contact a local law enforcement agency to assist in the proper disposal of medications

see list of agencies on back of pamphlet for contact information

## what can i do? consumers

- Dispose of unused or unwanted medications at take-back sites
- Do NOT dispose of any medication down the toilet or in the trash
- Purchase drugs in small amounts, limiting expired medications
- Ask for medications with low environmental impact
- Encourage your health provider to take back unused and expired drugs



## pharmacists and providers

- Do not prescribe more medication than can be used
- Prescribe starter packs and refill packs
- Review and regularly assess the patient's total consumption of medication
- Learn which drugs have the highest eco-toxicity
- Consider environmental impact when prescribing medications
- Educate patients, consumers, and colleagues about the importance of proper disposal of pharmaceutical waste