Unused medications are a disaster waiting to be found, so it’s vital to safely dispose of unneeded and expired prescriptions. You should avoid flushing or draining your unused prescription medications. There are safe Drug Take Back disposal sites available throughout the State of Texas, and all sites offer confidential disposal.

How and Where to Dispose of Unwanted Prescription Painkillers and Other Drugs

**Local Police Departments** - If your prescriptions contain narcotics or other controlled substances, contact your local police department to find out if the police will accept them.

**Mail-Back Programs** - You can participate in mail-back programs for unused medications. Check with your doctor, pharmacy, or local police station to see if they offer mail-back packages.

**Drug Take Back Day** - Whenever possible, take your unused prescription drugs to a collection program or event – the Drug Enforcement Agency’s (DEA) “Drug Take Back Days” happen, at minimum, in the spring and fall of each year.

**IMPORTANT! Drug Take Back is confidential.** The DEA allows prescription drugs to be disposed of in their original containers. If you are disposing of syringes, needles, or other kinds of sharps, refer to the Texas Commission on Environment Equality (TCEQ) website for disposal requirements and locations.

Learn more at: DoseOfReality.Texas.gov