



Cleaning Out the Medicine Cabinet Safely

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HOLDING ON TO OLD PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION CAN INCREASE THE RISK OF TAKING THE WRONG PILLS

or having dangerous drugs fall into the mouths of children and pets. To avoid these risks, the Office of National Drug Control Policy urges Americans to take the following steps to properly dispose of prescription medications:

- Take unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs out of their original containers.
- Mix the prescription drugs with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or kitty litter, and put them in impermeable, nondescript containers, such as empty cans or sealable bags.
- Throw these containers in the trash.
- Flush prescription drugs down the toilet only if the accompanying patient information specifically instructs it is safe to do so.
- Return unused, unneeded or expired prescription drugs to pharmaceutical take-back locations that allow the public to bring unused drugs to a central location for safe disposal.

POINT OF CONTACT:

» For more information on disposing prescription drugs visit www.medicinenet.com and search for "medication disposal."