



For more information:

For more information about disposal of common household hazardous waste visit the City of Carmel Utilities Web site at

<http://www.carmel.in.gov>

For more information about possible environmental impacts from pharmaceutical chemicals, visit U.S. EPA's West site at

<http://www.epa.gov/ppcp>


For more information about government research on the presence of pharmaceuticals in the environment, visit the U.S. Geological Survey's West site at

<http://toxics.usgs.gov/regional/emc>

The City of Carmel Utilities provides reliable and low-cost water and wastewater services to over 26,000 households in Clay Township.



13500 N Meridian St,
Carmel, IN 46032



*How to
Dispose
of Your
Medications*

The title "How to Dispose of Your Medications" is written in a large, purple, serif font. To the right of the text is an illustration of a white pill bottle with a blue cap, tilted and spilling several yellow and white pills. The background of the entire page is a mix of blue, green, and white curved shapes.

St. Vincent Carmel Hospital and the City of Carmel Utilities care about its citizens and patients as well as the environment. We would like to share information about preventing pollution and protecting area residents. We understand the public's concern of pharmaceuticals in our water and would like to share with you proper disposal methods.

Why is it important to properly dispose of your medications?

- Wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to remove pharmaceutical chemicals. These chemicals can then find their way into our streams, rivers and lakes. It is unknown how these chemicals may be affecting our fish and other aquatic life.
- Children and pets can be poisoned by accidental ingestion of improperly disposed of medicines they may find in the trash.
- Proper disposal prevents illegal use or theft including identity theft from discarded containers with patient information.

How do you properly dispose of unwanted medicines?

- Never pour medicines down the drain or toilet. This helps keep the pharmaceutical chemicals out of our lakes, rivers and streams.
- Never give away or sell unwanted or expired medicines.
- Follow these instructions for proper disposal of medicines:
 - Dissolve tablets or capsules in the original container with a small amount of water. Add coffee grounds, sawdust, kitty litter or flour to the mixture.
 - For liquid medications add sawdust, kitty litter or flour to the original container.
 - Remove labels from prescription bottles or completely mark out all patient information.
 - Put all lids back on containers tightly and put them in a heavy-duty sealed bag and put the bag in the trash. Tight lids and sealed bags will keep medications from leaking.

