

# Carroll County Medication Disposal Program

Starting at the Household Hazardous Waste Event on October 24, 2009, Carroll County launched a year-round medication collection and disposal program. The program is designed to help lessen the impact of medication on the environment.



## What harm do drugs do?

Medications that are poured down the drain or flushed end up in our waterways and drinking water, and wastewater treatment plants cannot remove the chemicals in those medications. Medicine discarded in the trash can also leach into water supplies. Medicines such as

antibiotics, hormones and contraceptives, antidepressants, and pain relievers have been discovered in waterways nationwide.

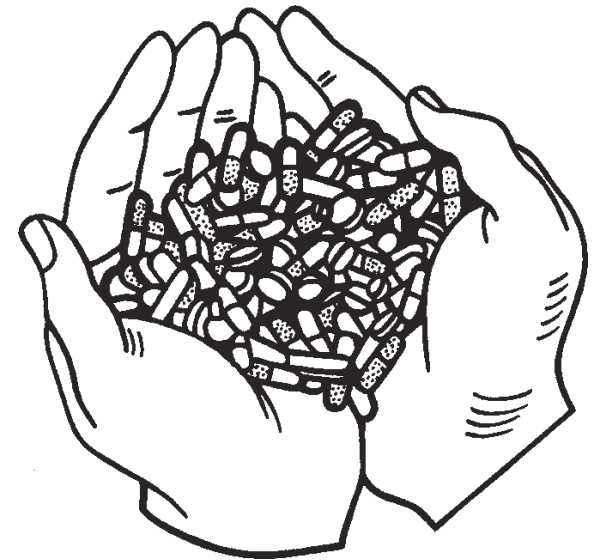
The risks of such chemicals in our waterways and drinking water include damage to unborn children, dangerous mutations in wildlife—such as the sex reversal in fish or even causing fish to be born with both male and female reproductive organs—and the development of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria. Because of these and other harmful effects, it is necessary to provide county residents with a proper way to dispose of unwanted medication.

## What can I do?

First things first: *Don't Rush to Flush!*

Flushing medication will cause these potentially harmful chemicals seep into our drinking water, our rivers and streams, and into the Chesapeake Bay. Dumping medicine in the trash also can cause harm: not only can animals get into garbage and ingest the medications, but rainwater dissolves and washes them away, depositing them in our waterways regardless.

Carroll County is leading the way with the medication collection and disposal program. County residents can bring their medication, prescription and over the counter to the collection centers (located at police stations throughout the county), where they will be disposed of properly. Please seal liquids in a leakproof plastic bag. This program is approved by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and overseen by the Carroll County Sheriff's Office.



**Remember:  
Don't Rush to  
Flush!**

## Where can I take my medications?

There are multiple collection sites around the county. The following police stations will accept unused and expired prescription medication:

### Westminster

Westminster City Police Department  
36 Locust Street, Westminster, MD 21157  
410-848-4646

Maryland State Police Barrack  
1100 Baltimore Blvd., Westminster, MD 21157  
410-386-3000 Open 24/7

Carroll County Sheriff's Office  
100 N. Court St., Westminster, MD 21157  
410-386-2900

### Taneytown

Taneytown Police Department  
120 E. Baltimore Street, Taneytown, MD 21787  
410-751-1150

### Sykesville

Sykesville Police Department  
7547 Main Street, Sykesville, MD 21784  
410-795-0757

### N. E. Greenmount

Carroll County Sheriff North Carroll  
Satellite Office  
2255 Hanover Pike, Greenmount, MD 21074  
410-386-2464



This program **only** accepts expired or unwanted medications. These locations will not accept medical equipment, such as needles.

#### Accessibility Notice:

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact Madeline M. Morey, The Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, 410.386.3600, 1.888.302.8978, MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email [mmorey@ccg.carr.org](mailto:mmorey@ccg.carr.org) as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

# Carroll County, Maryland Medication Disposal Program



**Do you have questions  
about the program?**

Contact: Citizen Services

410-386-3600