

## SHARPS MUST ALSO BE SAFELY DISPOSED OF

Never dispose of syringes, needles or lancets (aka Sharps) used in the medical treatment people of animals in the trash or flush them down the toilet.

State law requires they be placed in an approved red bio-hazard container for transport to, and management by, approved hazardous waste facilities, such as the Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility.



## PROTECTING YOUR PRIVACY

When dropping off unwanted medications and pharmaceuticals at the Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility we recommend you use a dark marking pen and delete your name or any personal information.



## Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday

(except Holidays)

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

FREE to all East County residents

The Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility's free pharmaceutical collection program is made possible by a partnership of the following agencies:

- California Integrated Waste Management Board
- City of Antioch
- City of Brentwood
- City of Oakley
- City of Pittsburg
- Contra Costa County
- Delta Diablo Sanitation District

# SAFELY DISPOSING OF UNUSED OR EXPIRED MEDICATIONS AND PHARMACEUTICALS



## DELTA HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION FACILITY



2550 Pittsburg Antioch Hwy  
Pittsburg CA 94565

925-756-1990  
www.ddsd.org

## WHAT'S IN YOUR BATHROOM CABINETS?

Have you checked your medicine cabinet lately? If you are like most people, you may have a collection of both prescription and over-the-counter medications and pharmaceuticals which have expired or are no longer used.

- If not disposed of safely, they can pose a danger to your family, friends, community and the environment.



Research and information from law enforcement and medical professionals report:

- Many children and the elderly are victims of accidental poisonings from medications in their homes

- More teens abuse prescription and over-the-counter drugs than any illicit drug except marijuana
- Recent studies have found traces of medications in water samples from 30 U.S. states. Research has linked pharmaceutical pollutants to reproductive defects in fish, resistance to antibiotics and the development of drug-resistant germs.



## CAN'T I JUST FLUSH THEM DOWN THE TOILET?

No! Flushing medications and pharmaceuticals down the toilet is the least desirable of all disposal alternatives. Scientific studies show the chemicals in many drugs can harm our precious local ecosystems and aquatic life. Wastewater treatment facilities are not equipped to remove all traces of pharmaceutical chemicals. If you flush them down the toilet, a portion of those contaminants will reach our local waterways and the Delta.



## HOW SHOULD I DISPOSE OF THEM SAFELY?

Residents of East Contra Costa County can bring unused, unwanted or expired medications and pharmaceuticals to the Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility located at 2550 Pittsburg Antioch Highway in Pittsburg. This is a FREE service.

## DO YOU ACCEPT CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES?

The Delta Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility is not able to accept controlled substances. Please contact your local police department.

The Drug Enforcement Agency holds an annual National Drug Take Back event each year. In 2012 this event was identified as an anonymous disposal, no questions asked program at several East County police stations. For information on future events in your area, go to:

<http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov>

Or call them at 1-800-882-9539.