

## What Can I Turn In?

- ◆ All prescription and over-the-counter medications, including vitamins
- ◆ Veterinary medications
- ◆ Liquid medication and loose pills **MUST** be **SEALED** in containers or plastic bags
- ◆ All needles, lancets and other sharps **MUST** be deposited in the red sharps container

## What Isn't Accepted?

- ◆ Items from medical offices, pharmaceutical representatives or pharmacies
- ◆ Thermometers and other mercury items
- ◆ Empty containers
- ◆ Illegal drugs and paraphernalia
- ◆ Personal care items

## Collection Locations

1st Precinct  
2509 Princess Anne Road  
(757) 385-4377  
Hours: 6:00 am—2:00 am

2nd Precinct  
820 Virginia Beach Blvd.  
(757) 385-2700  
Open 24 hours

3rd Precinct  
926 Independence Blvd.  
(757) 385-2703  
Open 24 hours

4th Precinct  
840 Kempsville Road  
(757) 385-2800  
Open 24 hours

## Contact Us:

2509 Princess Anne Road  
Virginia Beach , VA 23456  
(757) 385-4578  
vbpd@vbgov.com  
www.vbgov.com/police

## Prescription Medication Take Back Program



Virginia Beach  
Police Department



## About the Program

The Virginia Beach Police Department launched the program in June 2015 to better serve the community by providing a secure means for citizens to dispose of their unused or expired household and personal medications. The medications are then disposed of safely by environmentally friendly incineration. The program safely collects and disposes of over one ton of unused or expired medications each year!

Citizens are able to drop off unused medications at any precinct. No paperwork is required and citizens can remain anonymous.

***Drugs have been detected in drinking water supplies of at least 46 million Americans.<sup>1</sup>***

## Why Is This Needed?

It is unsafe to flush drugs in the toilet or dispose of them in the garbage. Drugs flushed down the toilet cannot be removed by sewage treatment and can be released into waterways, which can lead to contamination of surface and ground water. This program provides a safe, legal and environmentally acceptable drug disposal method.

Law enforcement has noticed a steady rise in the abuse of prescription medications by youth, resulting in increased heroin use and overdose deaths. Often, prescription drug abuse is perceived as “less serious” than tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs because prescription drugs are originally obtained legally.

Many teens think prescription drugs are safe because they have legitimate uses. However, taking them without a prescription can be just as dangerous and addicting as using street narcotics and other illicit drugs.

***Seventy percent (70%) of youth who abuse prescription drugs admit to getting them from family and friends.<sup>2</sup>***



## What Can I Do?

- ◆ Safeguard all medications. Store them out of sight and reach, preferably under lock and key.
- ◆ Do a yearly inventory of your medications and dispose of any that are expired or unused.
- ◆ Utilize this, or any, Prescription Medication Take Back Program to remove unused and expired drugs from your home.
- ◆ Set clear rules for teens about the use of medications.
- ◆ Call 911 for medical treatment in the event of an overdose.

1. Associated Press Investigation: 2008. Pharmaceuticals found in drinking water.

2. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 2008 National Findings