

# Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout

Bring unused or expired medications (just pills or liquids – no pressurized canisters or needles) to your local Fairfax County district police station for disposal anytime from **Monday, October 10 through Friday, October 14, 2011.**



Clearing out unused or expired medications prevents accidental poisoning, drug abuse, and environmental pollution.

In a 2009 survey, approximately 1 in 13 Fairfax County high school students responded that they had abused prescription drugs and/or over-the-counter medications in the previous month. Nationally, prescription drug abuse is a growing problem with all ages.

Disposal is free, convenient, confidential and safe.

## **Drop-off sites:**

### **Fair Oaks District Station**

12300 Lee Jackson  
Memorial Highway  
Fairfax, VA 22033

### **Mount Vernon District Station**

2511 Parkers Lane  
Alexandria, VA 22306

### **Franconia District Station**

6121 Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310

### **Reston District Station**

12000 Bowman Towne Dr.  
Reston, VA 20190

### **Mason District Station**

6507 Columbia Pike  
Annandale, VA 22003

### **Sully District Station**

4900 Stonecroft Boulevard  
Chantilly, VA 20151

### **McLean District Station**

1437 Balls Hill Road  
McLean, VA 22101

### **West Springfield District Station**

6140 Rolling Road  
Springfield, VA 22152

# Safe Handling of Medications Year-Round

Key medicine safety points:

- Read the material provided with all prescribed medications to know how to use them safely.
- Ask your doctor or pharmacist about any possible risks, especially for abuse.
- Talk to your children. Let them know to **never** take medications without your knowledge.
- Keep track of and secure your medications.

Here's how to safely dispose of your expired and unused medications from home year-round:

- Go through your medicine cabinets and identify medications that need to be removed.
- Keep the medications in their original containers. This will help identify the contents if they are accidentally swallowed. Cross out your name and prescription number on the container.
- Pills: Add some salt water to start dissolving them.
- Liquids: Mix in something inedible like dirt, ash or cat litter.
- Seal the container and secure the seal with duct tape or packing tape.
- Put the container in the trash close to pick-up time. Do **NOT** put it in the recycling bin.
- Do **NOT** flush unused medications down the toilet.

Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/dontflush> for more information about proper disposal of medications.

Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/prevention> or call 703-934-5477, TTY 711 for more information about CSB Wellness & Health Promotion programs.

**Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout** is sponsored by the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board in partnership with Fairfax County government departments and coalitions:

Channel 16, Health, Police, Fire and Rescue, Public Works and Environmental Services, Public and Private Partnerships, Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County;

....private treatment providers:

The Arbor Center, Boat People SOS, Harrison House of Virginia, Inova Comprehensive Addictions Treatment Services, Inova Kellar Center, Korean Community Service Center of Greater Washington, Lifeline Counseling, National Counseling Group, Northern Virginia Family Services, Multicultural Human Services, The Recovery Center;

...and local businesses:

CVS, Giant, Harris Teeter, Rite Aid, Safeway, Shoppers Food & Pharmacy, Walgreens and Wegmans.