# DISPOSED OF UNWANTED MEDICATIONS AT THESE ALEXANDRIA DROP BOX LOCATIONS:

#### **ALEXANDRIA POLICE HEADQUARTERS**

3600 Wheeler Ave.

Just inside front entrance

Available 24/7

### NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY OF DEL RAY

2204 Mount Vernon Ave. Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### **INOVA ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL\***

4320 Seminary Rd.
Visitor's Lobby
Near the cashier's window
Open daily from 8 a.m. – 11 p.m.

#### \*NEEDLE & SYRINGE DROP BOX

Dispose of needles and syringes at a separate permanent drop box located in the Visitor's Lobby at Inova Alexandria Hospital, available from 8 a.m. - 11 p.m. daily.

The City of Alexandria and community partners are working together to respond locally to the effects of the opioid crisis through the Opioid Work Group, a multi-agency partnership comprised of representatives from a range of city services and community partners that takes a multidimensional approach to attacking the crisis.

Learn more about how the City is working to eliminate opioid misuse and its harmful effects in Alexandria at alexandriava.gov/Opioids.















### Need to Dispose of Unwanted or Unused Medications?



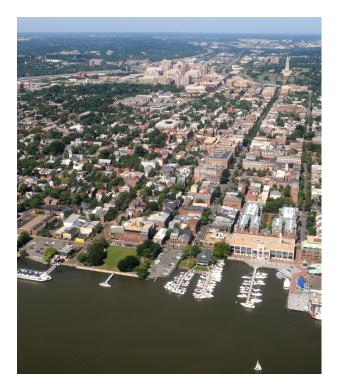
City of Alexandria
Permanent Medication
Drop Box Locations
and Information

## Why is it important to dispose of medication safely?

Safely disposing of unused, expired, and unneeded medication helps our community eliminate opioid misuse and its harmful effects.

Learn more about safe medication disposal below and share this information with others.

- Any prescription or over-the-counter medication can be misused if taken in ways that do not follow medical guidelines.
- The most misused prescriptions medications are:
  - » Opioids, such as Vicodin or Oxycontin, that are used for pain relief;
  - » Depressants, such as Xanax or Valium, that are used to relieve anxiety or help a person sleep; and
  - » Stimulants, such as Adderall or Ritalin, that are used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorders
- Opioids are highly addictive. Research has shown that taking opioid medications for more than a few days can increase an individual's risk of long-term use, which can increase the risk of developing an opioid use disorder.
- Unused, expired and unneeded medications that remain in the home may be misused by family members or friends. Over half of individuals who reported misusing prescription pain medications said they initially got the medication from a friend or relative.



## Why can't I flush medication down the toilet?

Prescription and over-the-counter medications are environmental hazards to waterways and should never be flushed down the toilet.

Safely disposing of unused, expired, and unneeded medication at the City's permanent medication drop boxes supports the goals of Eco-City Alexandria to ensure that people can live healthier and economically productive lives, while reducing their impact on the environment.

## What is the best way to dispose of my medication safely?

What is the best way to dispose of my medication safely?

The best way to fight the opioid epidemic is to dispose of unused or expired medication at one of three permanent medication drop box locations open year-round.

This includes safe disposal of your pet's medications, which are as powerful as human medications. Medication can also be safely disposed of at home by following the tips at alexandriava.gov/opioids

Needles are only accepted at the Inova Alexandria Hospital needle & syringe drop box, located next to the permanent medication drop box.

