



CITY OF CANYON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

www.canyonlakeca.gov/clfd
☎ 951-335-9414

City to Offer New Drug Disposal Program

A secure collection box is now available at Canyon Lake Fire Station 1.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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(Canyon Lake, CA) – Starting today, the Canyon Lake Fire Department is now offering a new Drug Disposal Program for the safety and convenience of the community. This program allows residents to properly dispose of expired medication, patches, ointments, and more using the City's new medication drop-off box.

Offering a secure collection site decreases the risk of pollution, drug misuse, and ingestion of expired medicine. Studies have shown that medications flushed down the sink or toilet can pollute local lakes and rivers. Most water treatment systems are not designed to remove pharmaceuticals and homes with septic tanks can leach chemicals into the groundwater. As a result, fish and aquatic life are negatively affected, and those chemicals pose the risk of ending up in drinking water.

The C.S. Mott Childrens Hospital conducted a national poll and found that 46 percent of parents have leftover prescription medications at home. Expired medications are at risk for bacterial growth and contribute to millions of accidental poisonings and overdoses yearly. Younger children that have access to medication are at risk for accidental poisoning. For older children, the problem becomes misuse of prescription drugs and experimentation.

It is important to follow the recommended steps below for proper disposal of any medications to protect the environment and prevent accidental harm.

1. Once an item has been dropped into the secure medication box, it cannot be retrieved. Do not attempt to retrieve the disposed medication.
2. Keep medications in their original packaging and remove your name from the prescription bottles.
3. Tape the lids of the prescription packaging to ensure the medication is secure.
4. Illicit drugs are prohibited from being disposed of at this disposal site.

(MORE)

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Be sure to check your prescription expiration dates regularly and dispose of expired pharmaceuticals at the new medication drop-off box located in front of the Canyon Lake Fire Department at 28730 Vacation Drive.

This program is being managed by the Canyon Lake Fire Department in partnership with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department Lake Elsinore Station. The Sheriff's Station will be responsible for regularly disposing of the medications in the secured drop-off box.

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