

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

Prescription & OTC Medicine Take Back Options to Increase in Gainesville

As part of the City of Gainesville's Zero Waste Initiative, every pharmacy within the city limits is now **required to provide an onsite publicly accessible container for the destruction of prescription and over-the-counter medications**. By responsibly disposing of unwanted, unused, and expired medications, we can effectively reduce the risks associated with drug misuse and safeguard individuals and the environment from the detrimental effects of improper medication disposal.



To ensure a smooth drop-off process, individuals should follow these guidelines:

1. Before bringing in medications for disposal, **carefully sort through your medications** to ensure you're not disposing of any current medications you'll need later on. Be sure to **remove prescription labels or black out any personal health information on the bottles**, such as your name, address, and health insurance data.
2. **Bring your medications for disposal inside the pharmacy in their original bottles or place them in clear, sealed bags.**
3. **Look for or ask where the medication drop-off kiosk box is located** and place your medication in the kiosk box. Do not leave your medications on counters, hand them off to any persons, or attempt to drop them off using the drive-thru window.

For more information about the City of Gainesville's Zero Waste Initiative, visit gainesvillefl.gov/ZeroWaste.

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