# Safe Storage & Disposal of Prescription Drugs

from the West Virginia Attorney General's Office

### **Safe Storage Tips:**

- Inventory all the medications you have on at least a yearly basis.
- Verify that medications have not expired.
- Keep medications in their original container.
- Do not store medications in areas that are hot and humid.
- Select child-resistant packaging for prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs.
- Try to find an area in your home to lock up all your medications.



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### **Safe Disposal Tips:**

- If disposal instructions are given on the label or medication information, then follow those instructions.
- If the medication does not contain disposal instructions, follow these steps:
  - Remove medication from its original container.
     Destroy the label by removing it or covering personal information.
  - 2. Make medications unappealing by mixing them with an unattractive substance like coffee grounds or kitty litter.
  - 3. Seal the container.
    Place the mixture inside a sealed bag, empty can, or other container.
  - 4. Throw out the container in your trash the day your garbage is collected.

#### **Remember:**

Take advantage of prescription drug take-back programs in your area!

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