Don't know what to do with your LEFTOVERS?

We can help. Visit leftovermeds.com
Or call 1-800-222-1222

The Nebraska MEDS Coalition educates Nebraskans about drug disposal and provides safe disposal options to better safeguard the environment and protect public health.

311 pharmacies across Nebraska collecting unwanted medications

112,476 pounds of medication collected in Nebraska thus far (January 2016 - November 2019)

Diverse agencies and organizations working together to take back medications

### THE ISSUE

Trace amounts of prescription drugs have been found in 80% of U.S. waterways. (USGS)

Waterways included in the USGS study included 7 Nebraska streams and groundwater.

What's in the water?

2002 USGS Study

- Antibiotics
- Household & Industrial Products
- Nonprescription Drugs
- Prescriptions
- Hormones & Steroids

### CAUSES & EFFECTS

Improper disposal, including flushing unwanted medications down toilets and drains.

Possible effects on wildlife, drinking water supplies, and human health.

Why?

- Around 70,000 youth are seen in ERs each year due to accidental medication overdose.
- Approximately 55% of the calls to the Nebraska Regional Poison Control Center involve medications.
- 56% of drug misuse/abuse ER visits are related to pharmaceuticals.
- Approximately 59% of deaths related to drug overdoses were from prescription drugs.

### THE SOLUTION

Return unwanted medications to participating pharmacies for proper disposal.

Help keep medications out of water supplies and helps prevent abuse and accidental ingestion.

What Can I Do?

- DO take medications to a pharmacy or other approved collection center for disposal.
- DO keep medications away from children.
- DON'T flush unwanted or expired medications down toilets or drains.
- DON'T toss old medications in the trash.

Find a participating pharmacy near you at: www.leftovermeds.com

Nebraska Pharmacists Association | Groundwater Foundation | Drug Enforcement Administration | Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department | Lincoln Police Department | Coalition Rx | Lincoln Public School Nurses | LiveWise Coalition | Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality | Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services | Nebraska Medical Association | AARP of Nebraska | Nebraska Pharmacy Foundation | Nebraska Regional Poison Center | Safe Kids Lincoln-Lancaster County | KETV | Nebraska Attorney General's Office | Nebraska State Patrol.

January 2020