



NEWS RELEASE
City of Chico
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Help keep our wastewater free from pharmaceuticals and personal care products!

The City of Chico Wastewater Treatment Plant, as part of its ongoing public information outreach program, has prepared the following information for inclusion in the October California Water Service City sewer user billing.

Every day the average adult uses nine personal care products containing 126 unique compounds that could end up in our wastewater and wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to remove these chemicals during treatment. In addition to trace amounts of sunscreen and cosmetics, small amounts of prescription and over-the-counter drugs make their way down our drains and could enter our environment.

In addition to following product recommendations for use and disposal, you can help by simply not flushing unused medication down the toilet. Controlling what goes down the drain is the easiest and most effective way to protect the environment.

There are several resources for pharmaceutical disposal in Chico. The Butte Regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility, located at 1101 Marauder Street (at the Chico Municipal Airport) will accept unused/expired medications. Their hours of operation are Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Their toll-free number is (866) 429-2288. Most of the local pharmacies (Walgreens, CVS, and Rite-Aid) provide a medication mail-back service for a nominal fee. Another option to consider is the National "Prescription Drug Take-Back Days" sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency and local law enforcement agencies. The next event in Chico will be held in the Spring of 2012. Check your local newspaper for time and location.

For information contact the City of Chico Industrial Pretreatment Program (CIPP) at (530) 894-4304 or visit www.ci.chico.ca.us

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