

Important Public Information from the Ontario Medications Return Program and Ontario Sharps Return Program and the Health Products Stewardship Association

The Health Products Stewardship Association administers the *Ontario Medications Return Program* and *Ontario Sharps Return Program* (OMRP and OSCP) to collect unused and/or expired medications, prescription drugs and Sharps through participating pharmacies in your area. This Program is offered through a significant network of community pharmacies across your province.

In 2018, we began a website review and would like to suggest some additional information on your website to further educate members of the public on the importance of safely returning medications for disposal through our network.

For your information, the OMRP and OSCP is 100% funded by the health industry and any member of the public can return unused or expired medications or health products to pharmacies at no charge. Pharmacists have the expertise to handle these waste streams thus reducing the risk to your municipal and depot workers. Our program provides a safe and appropriate disposal, diverting pharmaceuticals away from landfills. Furthermore, redirecting these waste streams to our network will reduce risks and expenses related to managing this waste.

Here is some general information in regard to the program:

- Prescription drugs/medications and sharps should not be placed in the regular garbage, for proper and safe disposal, take it back to your local pharmacies.
- The Health Products Stewardship Association operates the *Ontario Medications Return Program* and the Ontario Sharps Collection Program through community pharmacies to collect unused or expired medications and sharps.
- Visit your pharmacy to return unused or expired medications and sharps. Find the one nearest you by visiting www.healthsteward.ca or by downloading the Recyclepedia Mobile App available on <https://www.apple.com/itunes/> or <https://play.google.com/store>