

Proclamation

Whereas, there is an increasing amount of medicines prescribed to treat illnesses and disease, now exceeding 4 billion prescriptions dispensed annually;

Whereas, a large proportion of prescribed medications are not fully consumed as intended, and that pharmaceuticals stockpiled at home frequently result in misuse and accidental poisonings, especially among children;

Whereas, the Partnership for Drug-Free Kids reports that more Americans die from drug overdoses than in car crashes, and this increasing trend is driven by prescription painkillers;

Whereas, the Partnership also reports that 90 percent of drug addictions start in the teenage years;

Whereas, unused medications frequently are disposed of improperly, creating potential environmental and public health threats;

Whereas, the frequent flushing and disposal of unused medications down household drains is now recognized as an improper method for disposal;

Whereas, the safest methods of disposal of unwanted medicines are not well understood by the public, and therefore safe, convenient and effective disposal programs are appropriate, especially when supported by public education;

Whereas, as a means to address this growing public health issue, the National Community Pharmacy Association (NCPA[®]) has developed the Dispose My Meds™ program offering the public an easily accessible and convenient medication disposal program;

Whereas, (insert name of pharmacy) is a member of NCPA and is providing a medication disposal program as a public service, including consumer education and pharmacists/patient interaction addressing reasons why the medication is not being used;

Be it resolved that (insert name of Board or Council) commends (name of pharmacy) for providing community access to the Dispose My Meds Program (during American Pharmacists Month/on Earth Day/during National Poison Prevention Week); and

Be it further resolved, that residents are encouraged to take advantage of the education and public service benefits of the Dispose My Meds program and rid households of unneeded and unused medications for their proper disposal.