

# Agencies Launch Medicine Disposal Campaign

The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America signed an agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the American Pharmacists Association to help protect fish and aquatic resources from improper disposal of medications. The campaign, SMARxT DISPOSAL, publicizes a “crush, don’t flush” message.

“Medications play a vital role in our society,” says Dr. John A. Gans, vice president and CEO of the American Pharmacists Association. “Consumers—and pharmacists—should be aware that it is important to take that extra step to protect our families and natural resources.”

To dispose of unused medications, the campaign advises the public to

- put crushed pills and diluted liquid medications in a sealable plastic bag.
- add kitty litter, sawdust, coffee grounds, or other mixing material in the bag.
- seal the bag and put it in the trash.
- remove and destroy all identifying personal information from medicine containers.

For information on removing endocrine disruptors, pharmaceuticals, and personal care products from freshwater supplies, see *Emerging Contaminants: Insights to the Most Effective EDC and PPCP Treatment Strategies*, page 12. Also, learn more about SMARxT DISPOSAL at [www.smarxtdisposal.net](http://www.smarxtdisposal.net).