

Side Effects of Prescription Drugs Few Considered. *Did you know?*

- If you are flushing your prescriptions drugs you may be impacting the environment. To find out more [click here](#). **After clicking the rest of the information would dropdown**
- Traces of antibiotics and other PCPs (personal care products) have been detected in water quality testing of Arkansas streams but are at low levels
- Prescription drugs in streams have been shown to disrupt normal fish reproduction, slow development in amphibians, and cause other impacts throughout the food chain
- Human excretions are a major factor in spreading pharmaceuticals through the waste stream
- Medications that are flushed down the toilet or sink may not be removed and pass through sewage treatment works and septic systems (see Figure 1 and Figure 2)

Figure 1

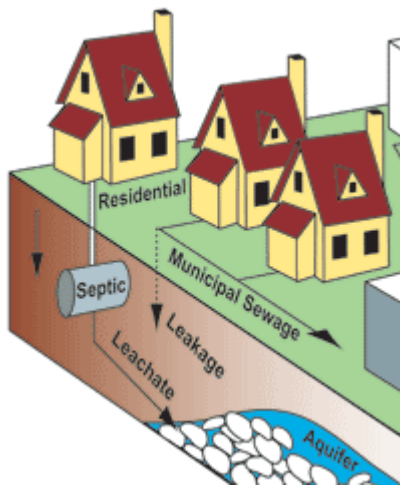
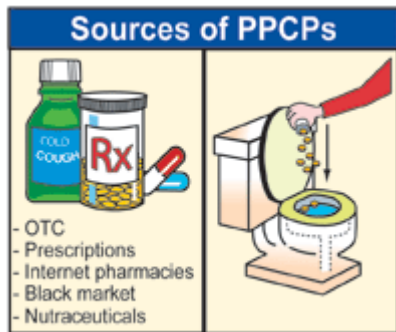


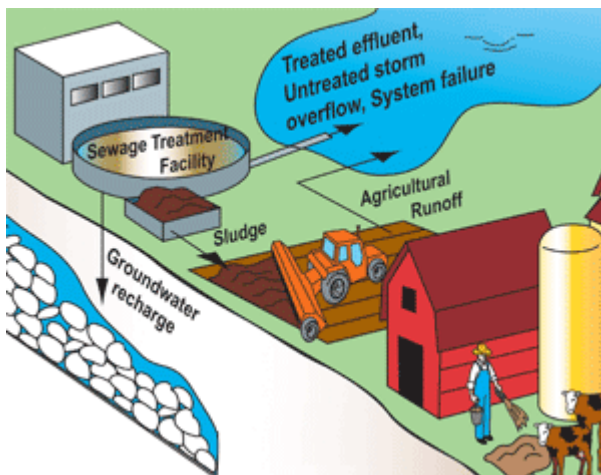
Figure 2

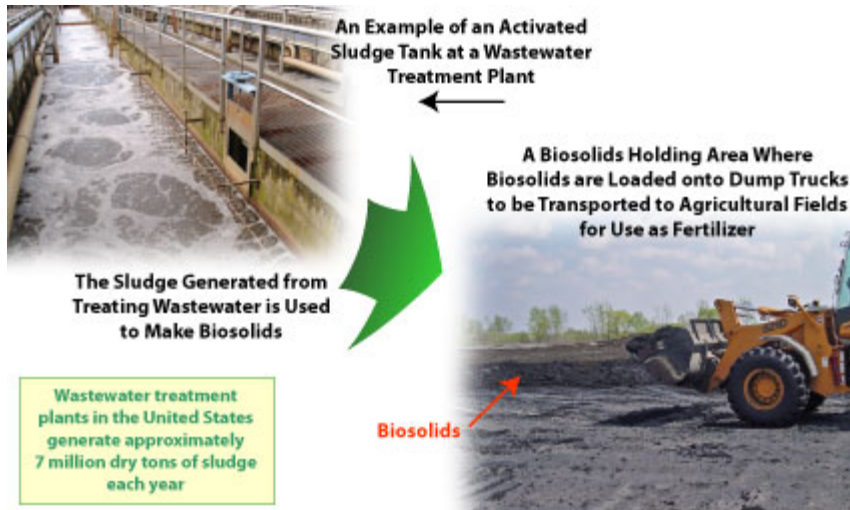


The Toilet is Not a Trashcan

Why incineration is preferred disposal

- Medications disposed in household garbage could poison children or pets.
- Leaching from defective (poorly engineered) landfills could drain to ground and surface waters
- Bio-solid applications can contribute additional PCPPS substances





Or

Links for more information

<http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/>

www.glendaleaz.com/Utilities/Pretreatment

www.glendaleaz.com/environmentalresources

(http://www.glendaleaz.org/utilities/documents/drugdispos_brochure.pdf)

Kinney, C.A., Furlong, E.T., Werner, S.L., and Cahill, J.D., 2006, [Presence and distribution of wastewater-derived pharmaceuticals in soil irrigated with reclaimed water](#): Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, v. 25, no. 2, p. 317-326, doi: 10.1897/05-187R.

<http://www.iarx.org/takeaway/>

<http://www.mnn.com/local-reports/washington/local-blog/garbage-drain-or-pharmacy-how-to-dispose-of-medications-safely>

http://www.monroecounty.gov/filesfiles/Communications/pharmaceutical_disposal_tips.pdf<http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/pdf/drawing.pdf>

<http://www.safemeddisposal.com/documents/USAToday3-12-08.pdf>

<http://septic.umn.edu/factsheets/medicationsandseptics/index.htm>

http://toxics.usgs.gov/highlights/pharm_watershed/index.html

<http://toxics.usgs.gov/regional/emc.html>

<http://www.creec.net/> The Consortium for Research and Education on Emerging Contaminants

Additional References

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- Kingbury et al. 2008. Anthropogenic Organic Compounds in Source Water of Nine Community Water Systems that Withdraw from Streams, 2002 – 2005/ USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2008-5208