

## PRESS RELEASE July 11, 2012 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Police Department Offers Safe Medication Waste Bin

Alamedans now have a safe and local place to dispose of expired and unused medication. The City's first public pharmaceutical disposal bin is available in the front lobby of the Alameda Police Department (APD) at 1555 Oak Street. Residents can safely dispose of their unused medication between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. This bin is possible through a partnership with Alameda County Environmental Health and East Bay Municipal Utility District.

"We want to give our residents a safe, secure location where they can properly dispose of their prescription medications. Not only are there environmental concerns, we also don't want dangerous prescription drugs ending up in the hands of our children," said Chief of Police Michael Noonan.

To protect privacy and preserve space, unused pills and capsules should be placed in a sealable plastic bag and the empty bottles recycled at home. Liquids should remain in their original leak-proof containers with labels removed or marked out. No vitamins, needles, batteries, thermometers, or illegal drugs are to be placed in the bin (vitamins may be disposed of safely in the trash).

Additional information can be found at <u>www.ebmud.com</u> and <u>www.baywise.org</u>.

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