



**SOLID WASTE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE &  
CREEKS, DRAINAGE, AND WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

December 10, 2012

King County Board of Health  
Attn: Board of Health Chair, Joe McDermott  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1300  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. McDermott:

The Seattle Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and Creeks, Drainage, & Wastewater Advisory Committee (CDWAC) would like to encourage the Board of Health to implement a Secure Medicine Return Program. As informed and engaged community members, we agree that a product stewardship approach will encourage better management and proper disposal of this problematic waste.

In addition to the health and safety benefits of Secure Medicine Return, we endorse this program for the environmental benefits that safe and secure medicine return would promote.

In particular, we remain concerned with the potential for pharmaceutical contamination of our waterways. A program that provides for the proper disposal of unused and surplus medications would immediately reduce this potential, as well as save money compared to costly, post-contamination approaches such as treatment facility upgrades. The proposed stewardship program would provide a continuous, reliable, and easily accessible system that encourages proper handling and minimizes such pollution.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Three handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature is "Julie Pond", the second is "Chris Hoffer", and the third is "Noel Miller".

Julie Pond, SWAC Chair; Chris Hoffer and Noel Miller, CDWAC Co-chairs

Cc: Tim Croll, Director, SPU Solid Waste Division; Bruce Bachen, Director, SPU Drainage and Wastewater Quality Division