



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

August 5, 2015

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michele Gardner, Town Clerk *GT*

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution in Support of a Marin County Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance Requiring any Producer of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs Offered for Sale in Marin County to Participate in an Approved Drug Stewardship Program for Collection and Disposal of Home-Generated Medications

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution in Support of a Marin County Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance Requiring any Producer of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs Offered for Sale in Marin County to Participate in an Approved Drug Stewardship Program for Collection and Disposal of Home-Generated Medications.

DISCUSSION

Vice Mayor Goddard added this item to tonight's agenda for the Town Council's consideration. The Marin County ordinance basically requires drug manufacturers to share responsibility for designing, implementing, and maintaining a county-wide system for the safe and convenient disposal of unwanted medications.

The Board of Supervisors conducted its first reading of the ordinance at its July 28, 2015 meeting, and scheduled the merit hearing for 10:30 a.m. August 11, 2015. A copy of the ordinance and County staff report is available for review at www.marincounty.org.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

RESOLUTION 15-__

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
IN SUPPORT OF A MARIN COUNTY ORDINANCE (SAFE DRUG DISPOSAL)
REQUIRING ANY PRODUCER OF PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER
DRUGS OFFERED FOR SALE IN MARIN COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE IN AN
APPROVED DRUG STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL
OF HOME-GENERATED MEDICATIONS**

WHEREAS, medications often are not completely consumed when they are purchased and, as a result, most households have leftover, unwanted, or unused medications; and

WHEREAS, the easy availability of unused medications in the home leads to inadvertent misuse, such as seniors with multiple medications becoming confused and taking more medications than prescribed, or children getting into medications; and

WHEREAS, unused medications are a source of drugs of addiction and pose significant risks of abuse, which can result in accidental poisoning or suicide; and

WHEREAS, up to 33 percent of medications go unused annually in the United States, presenting a threat to human and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, few options for safe and convenient disposal exist in most communities, and disposal by flushing or by tossing into the garbage has significant environmental consequences, particularly related to water quality; and

WHEREAS, the County of Marin has introduced an ordinance (Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance) requiring any producer of prescription and over-the-counter drugs offered for sale in Marin County to manage, fund, and participate in an approved drug stewardship program for collection and disposal of home-generated medications, as well as increase the number of collection sites to a minimum of 25 throughout Marin;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax supports the Ordinance of the Marin County Board of Supervisors Amending the Marin County Ordinance Code by Adding Chapter 7.90, Sections 7.90.010 through 7.90.150 to Require Any Person Who Produces a Drug Offered for Sale in Marin County to Participate in an Approved Drug Stewardship Program for the

Collection and Disposal of Unwanted Drugs from Residential Sources; to Provide for Implementation, Enforcement, Fees, and Penalties; and to Make Environmental Findings.

The foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held in said Town on the 5th day of August 2015, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

BARBARA COLER, Mayor

Attest:

Michele Gardner, Town Clerk