



Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## San Diego Region



Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

Over 50 Years Serving San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties

Recipient of the 2004 Environmental Award for Outstanding Achievement from USEPA

9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego, California 92123-4353  
(858) 467-2952 • Fax (858) 571-6972  
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego>

January 6, 2009

In reply refer to:  
**General:clemente**

**SUBJECT: No Drugs Down the Drain! Campaign**

Recent studies reporting pharmaceutical compounds in the environment highlight the need for alternatives to disposing of unwanted medication to the sanitary sewer system. By providing the public with these alternatives, you can immediately minimize the discharge of pharmaceuticals into the receiving waters.

On November 12, 2008 the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (hereafter, Regional Board) adopted Resolution No. R9-2008-0128 (copy enclosed), a resolution in support of the "No Drugs Down the Drain!" campaign. The campaign website, [www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org), contains useful information and a link to existing pharmaceutical take-back programs near a given zip code. The Regional Board recognizes that there are few take-back locations in the Region, and would like to encourage your agency to participate in the effort to minimize the improper disposal of prescription and non-prescription medication by:

- Conducting pharmaceutical take-backs in your local area.
- Promoting proper disposal alternatives.
- Educating residents to never flush drugs down the drain.
- Assisting with coordination, outreach, funding or in-kind services such as graphic design, pharmacist volunteers, event space and advertising.
- Becoming a partner on [www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org)

For further information on pharmaceutical disposal and the campaign, please visit [www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org](http://www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org). To contact our office regarding this matter, please call Ms. Chiara Clemente at (858) 467-2359, or e-mail via [cclemente@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cclemente@waterboards.ca.gov).

Respectfully,

JOHN H. ROBERTUS  
Executive Officer

enclosure: Resolution No. R9-2008-0128

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

