

What would happen if I didn't add water?

The water-soluble pod located inside the pouch will not open and expose the carbon to the medication. Warm water will also help to dissolve pills and draw the drugs out of patches. The absence of water will not allow the deactivation process to begin. Please follow the directions on the back of the pouch.

Are the Deterra® active ingredients safe?

The granular activated carbon used in Deterra® is non-corrosive to the skin or the eyes. The carbon is considered non-flammable and is stable under normal conditions in shipment, storage and use. There are no known harmful effects associated with ingestion of the carbon. It is considered non-toxic. A link to the most current MSDS is available on our website; www.deterrasystem.com

Does carbon release the drug if exposed to heat or solvent?

Based on testing, back extraction of the deactivated drugs is not effective. When used properly, the activated carbon will retain the drugs, rendering the contents of the Deterra® pouch inert and non-retrievable.

Aren't we just adding another plastic bag to landfills? Isn't the incineration of unused pharmaceuticals the best for the environment?

The Deterra® drug deactivation pouch is made from environmentally friendly materials. This allows for the degradation of the plastic pouch through the use of an organic additive that reacts with the microbes found in the landfill. The result is the release of water and carbon dioxide, with little organic biomass left behind. This greatly reduces the amount of material left in landfills. The incineration process releases global warming and smog inducing gases, ozone depleting agents, carcinogenic compounds, and other by-products.

Have Government Agencies endorsed Deterra®?

Government agencies do not endorse specific products. However, Verde has been awarded a contract from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a part of the U.S. National Institute of Health (NIH), for the development of a cost effective, easy to use at-home drug deactivation system. Following the Phase 1 product evaluation and full report, NIDA then awarded the Phase 2 contract to Verde to commercialize these products. In addition, the Office of National Drug Control Policy recently revised their National Drug Control Policy to include support of "At-Home Drug Deactivation Systems" for use in safely removing unwanted drugs from the home. The Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Administration in Northern Alabama have distributed Deterra® as a means for people to dispose of drugs as needed.

How can I comply with local environmental regulations?

In-home drug disposal is generally unregulated by federal, state and local authorities. Customers using Deterra® institutionally should follow all federal, state and local regulations. We have found state and local authorities to be very helpful, and they can conveniently be contacted for questions.

I work in a Healthcare Facility with a DEA registration. We encounter the need to dispose of controlled substances. Can I use Deterra® for this purpose in compliance with my registration?

According to the DEA, any destruction method applied to a controlled substance must render it "non-retrievable" and subsequently unavailable, unusable, and no longer available for diversion for all practical purposes. Testing results have shown Deterra® to meet these standards. Ultimately, it is up to the individual waste generator to ensure that they comply with all local, state and federal regulations.