Pharmaceutical Waste Management Overview

Unwanted Pharmaceutical

Is the pharmaceutical viable?
Yes:
Return to manufacturer or reverse distributor for credit.
No:
Is the pharmaceutical a controlled substance?
Yes:
Can the controlled substance be returned to the pharmacy?
Yes:
Assume all pharmaceutical waste is RCRA Waste.
No:
Designate which pharmaceutical waste is RCRA waste.
Assume all others are State-only dangerous waste.
Yes, it is State-only dangerous waste:
Designate which pharmaceutical waste is State-only dangerous waste.
No, it is not a dangerous waste:
Segregate RCRA waste from other wastes.
Dispose of at a RCRA-permitted dangerous waste facility. Under the Interim Enforcement Policy, you must send to a RCRA-permitted incinerator.
Incinerate at a facility that meets the conditional exclusion. WAC 173-303-071(3)(nn)
Contact your local health department for solid waste disposal restrictions.

Yes:
No:
Designate which pharmaceutical waste is State-only dangerous waste. WAC 173-303-080, WAC 173-303-090
Yes:
Segregate RCRA waste from other wastes.
Yes, it is State-only dangerous waste:
Yes, it is State-only dangerous waste:
Designate which pharmaceutical waste is State-only dangerous waste. WAC 173-303-100
Assume all others are State-only dangerous waste.
Yes:
Incinerate at a facility that meets the conditional exclusion. WAC 173-303-071(3)(nn)
No:
Designate which pharmaceutical waste is State-only dangerous waste. WAC 173-303-100
No:
Contact your local health department for solid waste disposal restrictions.