

Unwanted Medicine Collection Programs: Benefits for your communities



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Unwanted Medicine Concerns

- Threat to water supply
- Diversion for illegal use
- Access by vulnerable populations



Collection Programs

- Special Events
- Part of normal HHW
- Partnership with Pharmacies
 - Yellow Jug Program
 - Washtenaw County
- Collection Equipment
- Education Efforts



Superior Watershed Partnership 2007 Pharmaceutical Collections representing over half the Upper Peninsula

- Participating Earth Keepers Faiths-over 140 congregations:
- U.P. Native American Communities
- 50 Upper Peninsula Communities
- 25 Regional Pharmacists
- 19 Law Enforcement Officials
- Cedar Tree Institute, religion-based non-profit



Collection Locations

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Superior Watershed Partnership Earth Day 2007 Pharmaceutical Collection Results:

- 19 collection sites in communities across the Upper Peninsula.
 - 400 volunteers
 - About 2000 participants
 - Pharmacists and law enforcement at each site
- Over one ton of pharmaceuticals collected in three hours.
- Controlled substance street value of over \$500,000



Household Hazardous Waste Collection



Yellow Jug – Old Drugs

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Yellow Jug

- 12 Participating Pharmacies in Northeast Michigan
- Sponsored by the Great Lakes Clean Water Organization whose Mission is:
“To promote the collection and disposal of unused/unwanted drugs in a safe and approved manner. This will keep harmful effects of drugs out of ground water, surface water and municipal water systems in Michigan and the Great Lakes region.”

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Washtenaw County

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- Simple message
- Ten participating pharmacies
- 1200 lbs collected at the 7 pharmacies that the county pays disposal for.
- www.dontflushdrugs.com
 - Contains a 4 minute video
 - List of participating pharmacies
 - Disposal Guidelines
 - Link to Poison Control



Medication Disposal

Welcome to www.dontflushdrugs.com!

Increasing amounts of prescription drugs and personal care products (PPCPs) are being detected in U.S. rivers, waterways, and groundwater. Wastewater treatment facilities are not equipped to "filter out" these chemicals, so drugs like antidepressants, cholesterol reducers and antibiotics are being detected in drinking water supplies. The risk to humans and animals of long-term exposure to these contaminants in drinking water is unknown.

In addition, many children are the victims of accidental poisonings each year due to medications and personal care products in the home. In order to protect our children and the environment, we must ensure that medications and personal care products are properly **handled**, **stored** and **disposed**!

- ****NEW**** [Pharmaceutical Take-Back Program](#)
- [Medication and Personal Care Product Disposal Guidelines](#)
- [Sharps Disposal](#)
- [For More Information](#)
- [Articles & Links](#)





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Other Collection Options

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Clark County, Washington Unwanted Medications Take Back Program

Residents are instructed by county to ask pharmacist or doctor if medicine is controlled. If yes, several local law enforcement offices will accept material. Procedures in place to secure materials for storage prior to proper destruction.



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NO DRUGS DOWN THE DRAIN



Unused prescription and over-the-counter medications that are put in drains or flushed down the toilet pollute the environment, so please take as prescribed and dispose of unused portions properly.

www.nodrugsdownthedrain.org

UNUSED MEDICATIONS SHOULD BE

1

Taken to a household hazardous waste collection center or event (no controlled substances allowed) or

2

Put in a sturdy, securely sealed container, then in a trash can where children and animals can't reach them.



In case of overdose or accidental poisoning, call the poison center at
1-800-222-1222
24 hours/day



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“The major concerns to date... have been increased bacterial resistance to antibiotics and interference with growth and reproduction in aquatic organisms the level... the level of risk to humans and the environment is still being determined.”



Federal Activity

June 2009

- HR 1191: Safe Drug Disposal Act
 - Includes broad range of audiences, not just prescribed individuals
 - Prescribes how DEQ must develop regulations
 - States must pass laws implementing on eof the DEQ approved models
 - Addresses more than just controlled substances
 - Addresses flushing recommendation
- HR 1359: Secure & Reliable Drug Disposal Act
 - Only addresses prescribed individuals
 - No specific criteria for DEA to use
 - States have no role
 - Only addresses controlled substances
 - Doesn't address flushing recommendation



Questions?

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