

For Milwaukee County Residents ONLY

APRIL 30, 2011

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MEDICINE COLLECTION DAY

...a prescription for clean water & safe kids



Keep pills out of the hands of drug abusers.



Help protect Lake Michigan.



Prevent childhood poisonings.

WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are taken from medicine cabinets at home or from family and friends.

Each day, approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America.

NEVER flush or pour unused medicine down the drain.

Water reclamation facilities are not designed to remove all medicines from the waste stream. Drugs can end up going through the plants and directly to our lakes and rivers. Various levels of antibiotics, anti-depressants, veterinary drugs, birth control hormones and other drugs have been detected in waterways across the United States.

Research suggests that hormones found in pharmaceuticals may cause abnormalities in the reproductive cycles of fish. Antibiotics in the environment may also contribute to the development of drug resistant germs.



WHEN:

April 30, 10am-2pm

WHERE:

Miller Park, Miller lot by the "Sausage Haus"

YOU CAN BRING Prescription Medication & Over the Counter Medication. Ointments, sprays, inhalers, creams, vials and pet medications are acceptable.

DO NOT BRING Illegal Drugs, Biohazardous Material, Needles/Sharps, Personal Care Products (shampoo, soaps, lotions, sunscreens, etc), Household Hazardous Waste (paint, pesticides, oil, gas).

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



HOW DOES THE COLLECTION WORK?

Please keep medication in the original package or bottle. You **CAN** cross off your name and address, but **DO NOT** cover up or remove the name of the medicine. Simply drive or walk through the drop off area and give your medicine to a pharmacist. They will sort the medication into one of two groups. Federal law requires that we immediately hand over certain drugs to law enforcement. Law enforcement will destroy all drugs it receives. Veolia Environmental Services will incinerate the rest of the medicine collected at a federally licensed incinerator.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH OLD MEDS IF I CAN'T GO TO THE COLLECTION?

If you live in Milwaukee County, more than a dozen police departments are now collecting unused medicine all year long, but only from residents of the participating communities. [**CLICK HERE for a list of municipalities taking part.**](#)

If you **CAN** store unused meds safely, keeping them out of the reach of kids, wait for the next "Medicine Collection Day." If you **CAN'T** store old medication safely and have to get rid of it, the federal government recommends throwing it in the garbage. It's not a perfect option. Most landfills collect liquid that seeps through the landfill and direct it to a sanitary sewer. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove all medicines from wastewater. However, if you need to throw it away, grind it up and mix it with coffee grounds or something nasty that no one would want to eat. Or, dissolve it in a jar with water and kitty litter.

