WHAT IS IN YOUR MEDICINE CABINET?

Tobin’s ear infection
Mirianda’s strep throat
Helen’s arthritis
Danny’s diabetes
Darryl’s migraines
Peter’s ulcer

For Your Information

Dangers of medicine in the water system
Recent research conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Geological Survey found substantial amounts of antibiotics and steroidal hormones in rivers, lakes and wells from samples analyzed in 36 states. For more information, visit [epa.gov/ppcp].

Dangers of needles in trash
According to the US Environmental Protection Agency, each year, 8 million people use more than 3 billion needles, syringes, and lancets, also called sharps, to manage medical conditions at home. Some sharps users throw their used needles in the trash or flush them down the toilet. Used sharps left loose among other waste can hurt sanitation workers during collection rounds, at sorting and recycling facilities and at landfills, or become lodged in equipment, forcing workers to remove them by hand.

Children, adults and even pets are also at risk for needle-stick injuries when sharps are disposed improperly at home or in public settings. For more information, visit [epa.gov/osw].

Personal Sharps Containers
Any resident that lives in a SWANCC-member community and administers home injections is eligible to receive a 1 quart or 1 gallon Bio Hazard container for sharps. Go to the designated prescription drug drop-off site in your community to request one.

For sources of facts and information, visit [swancc.org].

General tips:
- Keep pharmaceuticals in their original containers with labels to identify contents.
- Sharps need to be placed in a rigid container with a carefully sealed lid. A new sharps container will be provided.

Acceptable Items:
- Unused/Expired prescription medications
- Expired over-the-counter medications
- Residential sharps (needles/syringes)

Unacceptable Items:
- Pharmaceutical Controlled Substances*
- Institutional or business waste
- Non-prescription liquids
- Household Chemical Waste

* The following programs allow for controlled substances:
- Save A Star Collection Program - saveastar.org
- DEA Take-Back Days - deadiversion.usdoj.gov/schedules
- Contact local Police Department

Visit deadiversion.usdoj.gov for a list of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) regulated pharmaceuticals.

SWANCC’s Disposal Program
This program is for residents that live in one of SWANCC’s 23 member communities. No prescription drugs or sharps from businesses, schools or hospitals will be accepted. IDs will be checked for verification of residency.

For sources of facts and information, visit swancc.org.

Program may be restricted to respective community’s residents only. Please visit swancc.org for a listing of participating locations.
SWANCC

SWANCC provides a disposal program for prescription drug waste called the Prescription Drug and Sharps Disposal Program to:

- Ensure environmental safety
- Guard against potential theft associated with disposing of old medications
- For residually-generated unused prescriptions, expired over-the-counter drugs, and needles known as “sharps”
- No commercial or institutional waste will be accepted
- No pharmaceutical controlled substances will be accepted at municipal locations - see reverse side for options for controlled substances

Visit swancc.org, call SWANCC at (847) 724-9205 or email info@swancc.org for participating disposal locations.