

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.

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/Non-Controlled 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 your local Police Department

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

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



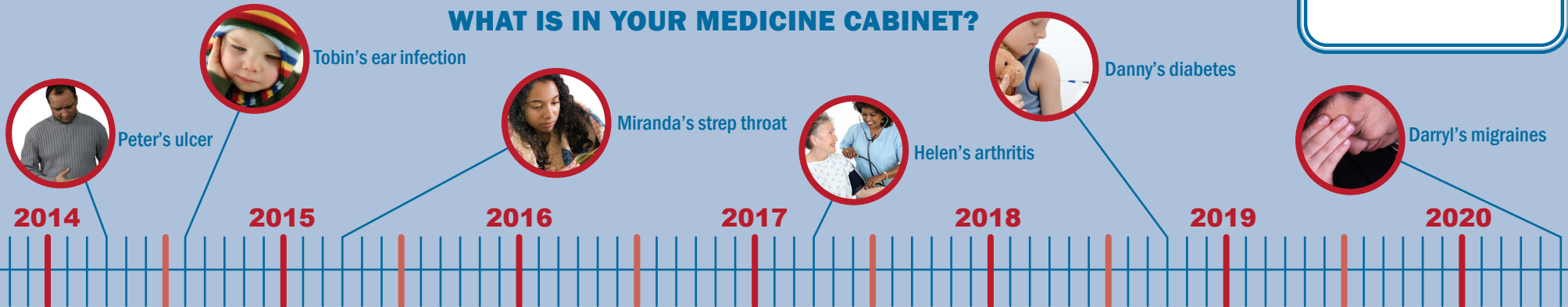
Any resident that lives in a SWANCC-member community and administers home injections is eligible to receive a 1 quart or 1 gallon Bio Hazard container for sharps. Go to the designated medications drop-off site in your community to request one.

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

SWANCC Communities

- Arlington Heights
- Barrington
- Buffalo Grove
- Elk Grove Village
- Evanston
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Hoffman Estates
- Inverness
- Kenilworth
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mount Prospect
- Niles
- Palatine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Rolling Meadows
- Skokie
- South Barrington
- Wheeling
- Wilmette
- Winnetka

WHAT IS IN YOUR MEDICINE CABINET?





SWANCC provides a disposal program for medications and sharps to:

- Ensure environmental safety
- Guard against potential theft associated with disposing of old medications
- For residentially-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 your community’s website for details.

Special Material Programs

- CFL Bulb Recycling
- Document Destruction Events
- Electronics Recycling
- Holiday Lights Recycling
- Mercury Thermometer Recycling
- Medications and Sharps Disposal

Resources

- Books and Media for Loan
- Closing the Loop Brochure
- Composting
- Curbside Recycling
- Eco-Cleaning Guide
- Eco-Landscaping Guide
- Eco-Friendly Marketplace Guide
- Elist for Educators
- Elist for Residents
- Reuse & Recycling Directory
- Informational Videos
- Signage for Recycling & Composting Containers
- Waste Reduction Solutions Brochure



SOLID WASTE AGENCY OF NORTHERN COOK COUNTY

swancc.org



SWANCC

Medications and Sharps Disposal Program



Do not flush medications or put them down the drain!