

How to Get Rid of Your Unwanted Medicines

Unwanted, unused prescriptions and over-the-counter medicines can be found in almost every household in the county. We know that it's not safe to keep unneeded medicines in the house – children and others can accidentally take them. Prescription drug abuse by teens is also a growing problem.



photo courtesy of the MedDrop, Dane County, WI

But you've also probably heard that you shouldn't flush medicines down the toilet or put them in the trash. We now know that these medicines are bad for our environment – our water, our lakes and the animals in them. Trace amounts of many medications are now found in the drinking water of millions of Americans.

So... how can you safely get rid of your medicines?

How

Please keep your medications in their original containers. You may cross off your name and **PERSONAL** information **ONLY**. Please **DO NOT** cover up or remove the name or the dosage of the medication. No personal information will be collected. If some medications are already out of their original containers it is still OK to bring them. All medications and their containers will be incinerated with law enforcement witness.

Where

Bring your unneeded medicine to the TCAT bus garage on 737 Willow Ave. in Ithaca. Willow is at a traffic light on Route 13, across from Dey Street.

Who

This **FREE** service is available to all households in the area. Doctor offices, veterinary offices and pharmacies are **NOT** covered under this current program. Tompkins County residency is **NOT** required.

When

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 9a.m. to 3p.m.**

Questions? [Email](#) or call Ed Gottlieb, Pretreatment Coordinator, Ithaca Area Wastewater Treatment Facility