GET THE MEDS OUT PROGRAM

What is the Get the Meds Out Program?

The Get the Meds Out Program is a grant-funded (US Environmental Protection Agency) pharmaceutical mail-back program for the 36 Wisconsin counties that drain into the Great Lakes watershed. This program is available to any interested pharmacy, county health department, or senior citizens center located within the 36 counties. Funding for the program is provided through September 30, 2012.

How does it work?

We supply pharmacies and facilities with our pre-paid mail back envelopes and outreach materials. The participating location then distributes the envelopes to any inquiring individual. Envelopes are free and contain an instruction booklet and survey. The individual will place their unwanted medicines into the envelope and fill out the survey. The sealed envelope is then mailed to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency, where contents are sorted and safely disposed. Please note, we do take controlled substances!

What are the goals of the program?

Prescription drug abuse in the state of Wisconsin is rising dramatically. One of the goals of Get the Meds Out is to provide a convenient way for people to rid their homes of excess drugs, thereby reducing the risk of potential drug abuse by family members or others. We also want to reduce the environmental impact of pharmaceuticals on the Great Lakes. Research indicates that pharmaceuticals have a negative impact on aquatic life and water quality. This program aims to reduce the amount of drugs entering the environment.

How can I track the results of the program?

We will be posting results periodically on our website: http://fyi.uwex.edu/pharma/get-the-meds-out-program/

We will also send e-newsletters to participating facilities and pharmacies.

Get the Meds Out, in conjunction with existing disposal options throughout the state, will encourage ongoing funding and support for pharmaceutical waste reduction programs. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in participating in our Wisconsin mail-back program, please contact us ➔

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