

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Division of Public Safety

1110 West Springfield Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801



March 11, 2013

Laura Kammin  
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant  
University of Illinois  
1101 W. Peabody Dr.  
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Ms. Kammin:

The University of Illinois Police Department is interested in establishing a permanent program to collect expired and unused pharmaceuticals from the campus community. Under the Controlled Substances Act, only law enforcement agencies may legally collect controlled substances from people who wish to properly dispose of their unused medications. Pharmacies are not currently allowed to accept controlled substances for disposal. The University of Illinois Police Department wishes to partner with Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, other local law enforcement agencies, and other community partners to develop the Champaign-Urbana Area Medicine Take-Back Program. Both the Urbana Police Department and Champaign Police Department would host collection boxes. The University of Illinois Police Department would also host a box on campus at 1110 W. Springfield Ave Urbana, IL 61801.

The proposed campus component of the program would include the following:

- One locked collection box, purchased by Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, to be installed at the lobby entrance of the University of Illinois Police Department. The box is steel gauge (160 pounds) and will be bolted to the floor.
- Materials collected would include controlled and non-controlled pharmaceuticals and over-the-counter medications. Personal care products, illicit drugs, and sharps will not be accepted. Items that are not accepted will be listed clearly on the box.
- The pharmaceuticals will be collected, stored, and transported by officers of the University Police Department in conjunction with officers from the Urbana Police Department and Champaign Police Department.
- Police officers from one of the three Police Departments will transport the collected pharmaceuticals to Covanta Energy in Indianapolis, Indiana for destruction on at least a biannual basis.
- The collected medicine will be destroyed using high-heat incineration at Covanta Energy. The police department will register for Covanta Energy's Rx4Safety Program, which provides free incineration.

Safe and legal disposal of unused controlled substances and other medications is critical to help protect public health and safety and the health of the environment. Costs incurred for staff time and mileage to conduct the program need to be funded externally. We appreciate the efforts of Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant to provide funding and to secure additional funds from community partners and sponsors of the C-U Area Medicine Take-Back program. If these funds additional funds can be secured, the University of Illinois Police Department will host a medicine collection box and transport the collected medicines as noted above as partners of the C-U Area Medicine Take-Back Program.

Sincerely,



Jeff Christensen  
Executive Director of Public Safety  
Chief of Police  
University of Illinois Police Department  
Division of Public Safety  
1110 W. Springfield Avenue  
Urbana Illinois 61801